

Monday June 22 1998

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Peter Preston

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War and peace at the World Cup



American and Iranian fans in Lyon, France, sporting their national colours for the politically sensitive US-Iran match last night. US defender Alexi Lalas said: "The result of this game could determine the future of the planet. It is the most important sporting event in history" PHOTOGRAPH: TOM JEWELL

Fury greets new Israeli expansion

US hits at 'greater Jerusalem' plan

David Sharrock in Jerusalem and Martin Kettle in Washington

THE Middle East peace process lurched closer to collapse yesterday when the Israeli government defied Washington and angered Palestinians by backing a plan to extend Jerusalem's borders into the occupied West Bank.

Ignoring American protests, Israel's prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, won cabinet approval for the scheme, which Palestinian leaders said amounted to a de facto annexation of territories that were supposed to be subject to final status negotiations between the two sides.

The creation of a "greater Jerusalem" will include the extension of its boundaries westwards to incorporate Israeli commuter towns, with the objective of guaranteeing the city's Jewish majority and expanding its tax base.

But the more controversial element is the proposal to create an "umbrella municipality" over parts of the West Bank beyond the 1967 Green Line to the south-east and north of Jerusalem. Eight Jewish settlements will fall under the city's municipal authority.

Ahmed Tibi, economic adviser to Yasser Arafat, described the Israeli government's decision as "a new attempt to destroy the peace process". "It's a total violation of the Oslo agreement, there is an intention to annex Palestinian-occupied land," Mr Tibi told Israeli radio.

"Palestinians are being expelled from Jerusalem systematically by cancellation of their identity cards, confiscation of their lands and demolition of their houses."

Mr Tibi said Mr Netanyahu was deliberately sending a clear message to Washington — "annexation of land in Jerusalem, and No to the American initiative. It's a real spit in the face of the American administration."

The Palestinians have been urging Washington for months to take a tougher line with Mr Netanyahu, but despite her patience being stretched to the limit, the United States secretary of state, Madeleine Albright, has persevered in assembling a package deal which would see Israel withdraw from another 13 per cent of the West Bank in return for security guarantees and the start of final status negotiations.

Yesterday, after a week of intensive lobbying against the Israeli move, Mrs Albright said in a television interview that she had told Mr Netanyahu in a telephone conversation that "in this very delicate environment, unilateral actions are not the kind that are helpful."

Earlier, a state department spokesman went further, calling the expansion plan "extremely provocative."

However, Mrs Albright said, "It's a total violation of the Oslo agreement... one great project to make Jerusalem more Jewish and much less Palestinian"

Arafat adviser

Hooligans face expulsion from France for life

Jon Henley and John Duncan in Toulouse and Stuart Miller

FRENCH authorities last night agreed emergency powers to expel hooligans from the World Cup, and threatened to impose a lifetime ban on them ever entering France again.

The decision, following a meeting between senior British and French security officials, came as the tournament was marred by a second outbreak of violence, this time as hundreds of German football hooligans went on a "orgie" rampage in Lens, northern France, briefly detaching attention from the 15,000 Eng-



land fans arriving in Toulouse for today's game against Romania.

French authorities agreed to bring in emergency powers to expel "several hundred" category C English football hooligans without them committing an offence. Home Secretary Jack Straw said the move was "sending out a clear message that thugs are not welcome and will not be allowed to spoil the tournament."

In Lens, around 750 Germans clashed with police before their side's match against Yugoslavia. Bottles and chairs were thrown during the hour-long disturbances, which reportedly involved a large number of the most dangerous category C

As England's football team slipped quietly into Toulouse yesterday, knowing that victory this evening will secure qualification to the knockout stage, the atmosphere in the town remained friendly.

Supporters gathered in bars to watch football and England fans kicked a ball around with local youths, watched by riot police, patrolling gardens and television cameras from around the world.

"They have been fine," said Christian Lagarde, the manager of the camp-site where more than 400 fans are based. They had been playing football and drinking, he said.

However, after the rioting in Marseille last week, 1,800 officers will be on duty in Toulouse over the next two days, half of them specially trained riot police. There will also be a team of divers, in case fans fall off the stadium into the River Garonne.

"I will not comment on who is happy and (Mr Marshall), said Alain Bidot, the prefect for Toulouse. "All I will say is that there are an awful lot of officers on the streets of Toulouse — and they will react as quickly as humanly possible." He estimated that there were 2,000 England fans in town, including about 100 or 200 whom "we have reason to be worried about."

Four England supporters recognised by British riot police as category C hooligans were arrested in central Toulouse yesterday, purely on the basis that they were known hooligans.

French police in Paris also turned back one of the most violent football hooligans in England, Martin Townsend, aged 35, from Manchester, who was jailed for four years in 1991 for grievous bodily harm and riot, was spotted boarding a Eurostar train at Waterloo and refused entry to France after a tip-off from the football intelligence unit of the National Criminal Intelligence Unit in London.

He is believed to be among 400 category C hooligans who organise violence abroad.

Peter Preston, page 5; World Cup Diary, page 5; Sport section, pages 14-17

Passports row as Bermuda fears British 'invasion'

Ian Black and Lucy Ward

MOVED to grant British citizenship to the inhabitants of Britain's last fragments of empire are in crisis over Home Office demands that the colonies must return the favour by opening their doors to all UK citizens.

In an extraordinary role reversal, affluent dependent territories such as Bermuda and the Cayman

Islands are refusing the right to claim British passports on the grounds that granting reciprocal rights could lead to an influx of UK immigrants seeking a new life in the Caribbean.

The Home Office is sticking to the condition even though it is unlikely that any but a handful of the 130,000 residents of the 13 last colonies would seek to settle in Britain. Though few Britons would seek to emigrate to St Helena —

dubbed an "Atlantic Alcatraz" — or ash-covered Montserrat, the weathered outposts fear their sunny climes could prove only too attractive.

"They are small islands and have a very high standard of living," said Suzanne Stubbs, UK representative for Bermuda.

The stalemate over citizenship has held up the white paper by Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, on the future of Britain's last

colonies, due before the end of the parliamentary session, now only weeks away.

"It is totally stuck," said one well-placed source. "The Foreign Office now says it is becoming ridiculous and will have to be discussed in Cabinet. It needs someone to wade in and force a decision."

Mr Cook indicated in February his desire to restore citizenship rights — lost in 1982 — to the populations of outposts from Pitcairn to

the Turks and Caicos Islands.

He believes all should have full passports so as not to discriminate against black Caribbeans. Officials say he thought the unconditional rights given to the largely white populations of Gibraltar and the Falklands, both claimed by foreigners, could be replicated. Currently the 13 last colonies have only British Dependent Territory status, which does not

guarantee the right to live and work in the UK.

The FO is clearly embarrassed by the delay but insists there is no row with the Home Office. "Discussions are amicable though we always thought citizenship would be the most difficult question to resolve," said one official. "But things are not irreversibly blocked." A Home Office spokesman said: "Discussions are continuing at official level."



Bermuda... living standards are high, residents stress

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L A N V I N

Tokyo officials rush to plan rescue of ailing LTCB □ Collapse could provoke global credit squeeze □ Ministers pledge firm action to G7

Crisis talks to save Japanese bank

Alex Brummer in Tokyo

THE Japanese authorities were last night struggling to avert the collapse of the Long Term Credit Bank of Japan, in what is seen by global policymakers as the first test of Tokyo's pledges to the Group of Seven to move rapidly to fix the banking system.

An emergency G7 meeting in Tokyo at the weekend, Japan promised firm action to clean up its failing banking system and stimulate the

economy, in exchange for co-ordinated support for the yen on the foreign exchanges.

The severity of the crisis in Japanese banking was rammed home yesterday when it was revealed that LTCB has been involved in rescue talks with at least two other large banking groups.

"The fate of the bank might be the test of what they can do. There is a lot of incentive for change," a senior American source said.

Shares in LTCB fell by 24 per cent on the Tokyo stock exchange last week after it revealed it was writing off

\$4.4 billion (\$2.7 billion) of bad loans following a loss of \$2 billion in the financial year just ended. If LTCB were to collapse it would be the third largest scale financial institution to go into bankruptcy in the last 12 months, and could provoke a global credit crunch.

Reports in Tokyo yesterday suggested that LTCB would prefer a merger with another Japanese bank, Dai-ichi Kangyo, preserving most jobs. Dai-ichi only arrived on the

scene after earlier talks with the Nippon Credit Bank broke down.

With some 43 per cent of LTCB's loans owed by the hard-pressed property and construction sectors, the prospect of a successful private sector rescue is slim. It is estimated that, as a whole, the larger Japanese banks have some \$9 billion of disclosed problem loans on their books, but the amount is rising by the day because of weakening property values and bad loans to other Asian countries.

The Japanese finance minister, Kiharu Matsunaga, the

governor of the Bank of Japan and other financial officials spent yesterday trying to piece together a rescue plan before the markets reopen for trading today.

If the merger talks with other banks fall apart, the most likely solution is the creation of a new public body that would be empowered to take over the business of failed banks, foreclose on bad loans and run down their operations.

At the G7 meeting of leading industrial countries, attended by financial officials from the United States, Ger-

many, France, Britain, Italy and Canada, Japan promised to give the reform of its financial system "the highest urgency". It agreed to "the prompt disposal of bad assets" as well as a "fiscal stimulus to reform both the corporate and individual income tax structures".

As part of the reforms, Japan is required to ensure full transparency by the banks of their bad loans. Officials attending the talks also made it clear that Tokyo is expected to replace the existing audit system carried out by under-powered local firms

in the thrall of the managers who employ them, with reputable global accounting firms such as Arthur Andersen and Price Waterhouse.

The other finance ministers and central bankers attending the talks are also keen that Japan move to establish a so-called bridge bank, based on the US model, which disposes of bad loans and brings those responsible for corrupt or fraudulent trading to justice. Japan knows that unless it moves aggressively to restore confidence, it risks another run on the yen on the currency markets — without the

US coming to the rescue. "It is better for Japan to address the fundamental problems in the banking system rather than allow problem banks to fail," said a senior G7 official. "It has to start making some decisions about credit allocations."

The fear among the G7 is that a failure at this critical stage could spark a collapse that undermines the whole banking structure, which would destroy remaining consumer and business confidence.

Asian contagion, page 11

The wizard of Ozzy

Review

Garth Cartwright

Ozz-Fest
Milton Keynes Bowl

THE first thing that hits is the sound. A grinding noise with a dull boom, it could be a wrecker's, or a recycling site. Then there's the crowd. Across the horizon spreads a sea of black T-shirts and tattoos, feathercuts and beer guts. Legend suggests Milton Keynes was built along Satanic ley lines; on Saturday it hosted a festival full of devilish intent.

Ozz-Fest's UK debut drew 50,000 people to feast, in the mud, on a relentless diet of metal. You had techno metal, ethnic metal, thrash metal, grunge metal, and, with the reformed Black Sabbath, vintage metal. Metal and nothing but metal.

Brazil's Soulfly lent the afternoon colour with their tribal rhythms and Portuguese chants. Noisy? Sure, but after Slayer's celebration of gross power and basic instinct they were light relief. Which was essential, as Pantera followed with a sound so physical it felt like an assault.

The dark side of metal rests in these heavily tattooed Texans. Having courted controversy with vocalist Phil Anselmo's outspoken white power harangue, Pantera's tales of hate and paranoia were born out in numbers such as *Fucking Hostile* and *Mouth for War*. This is bad mood music, the soundtrack to a beating.

Following Pantera, the Foo Fighters were positively cuddly. Lead by former Nirvana drummer Dave Grohl, the Foo Fighters have inherited Nirvana's gift for crunchy melodies, if lacking his old band's fresh twist on heavy rock.

And then it was Ozzy time. Ozzy is an unlikely icon and, at 48, something of a British institution. Taking the stage to shriek over his solo band he looked ridiculous and sounded naff. When he returned with his sparring partners from Black Sabbath, everything fell into place.

If ever a festival honoured its headliner it was Ozz-Fest: Black Sabbath were the sonic and spiritual fathers of everyone on Saturday's bill.

Paranoid, stoned, nihilistic, their brand of primeval despair has served only to increase in power and volume over the years. As the sun set and bonfires blazed, the original monsters of rock unleashed the riffs that shook the world. Ozzy skipped, clapped and shouted encouragement. In turn, Milton Keynes punched the air, chanted "Sabbath" and roared its approval.



Ranger J. D. Swed shows where the Britons were trapped

British soldiers fight for lives on hostile Alaskan peak

Amelia Gentleman

FEARS were growing last night about the prospects for two British soldiers trapped without food on a freezing Alaskan mountain since last Thursday, as rescuers said weather conditions were still too poor to attempt to help them down.

Corporal Carl Bougard and Sergeant Martin Spooner, who is thought to have a broken ankle and leg, were waiting for a high-altitude helicopter to land on the mountain, but the forecast was not promising, Ms Tranel said. The cloud was too thick even

Rescuers from the National Park Service had no radio contact with them for nearly two days and officials last night said fears were growing for their safety.

"There is grave danger for anyone who has been at 19,000ft for three days without food," said National Park spokeswoman Jane Tranel. "The temperature is about 30 degrees below zero and the wind speed is about 40mph. The wind chill factor can hit 100 degrees below zero."

Rangers were on stand-by, waiting for cloud and snow to clear for a high-altitude helicopter to land on the mountain, but the forecast was not promising, Ms Tranel said. The cloud was too thick even



Mount McKinley, the 20,320ft peak which the nine-member British team was trying to climb before descending to sea level

PHOTOGRAPH: AL GRILLO

to attempt to drop a food parcel.

The soldiers were part of a nine-member British team hoping to break a world record by climbing the mountain's 20,320ft peak before descending to sea level in Alaska, using canoes for some of the journey.

Problems began on Thursday as the expedition reached the top of the mountain and

three men fell into a 300ft snow chute, known as the Orient Express. Sgt Spooner, 35, of the Army Physical Training Corps, was seriously hurt. The team's leader, Captain Justin Featherstone, 28, descended to a national park camp with the others to raise the alarm. Cpt Featherstone broke his ankle in another 1,000ft fall on his way back, but was dragged to the camp by a

rescue team and was last night in a stable condition. The Orient Express chute is notoriously dangerous. Fifteen people have died there since 1972. In 1981 a Polish climber survived three days' isolation at a higher point in similar conditions, but no one is known to have survived longer.

A team of US army climbers camped at 17,000ft was ready to

form a ground rescue party if there was no improvement in the weather. But they were about eight hours' climb from the British soldiers.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman said the two men would be equipped with a full survival pack, with water, fuel and warm clothing. They were without food because they had only intended to be away from the camp for a day.

Three days of peace, music and don't forget your pin number

Amelia Gentleman

DEDICATED festivalgoers are appalled. What little is left of the hippy spirit of Glastonbury has taken another knock from the mercenary forces of nineties consumer culture. A cashpoint machine has been installed in the remote fields of Somerset.

Horried by the soaring ticket prices, regular Glastonbury pilgrims have been complaining for years that the spirit of the occasion is being gradually eroded.

And now the free-spirit, free-love vibe that characterised early festivals has been transformed into a cli-

mate in which cash is king. About 80,000 people are expected to pay £20 for the three-day extravaganza which begins on Friday, and NatWest has seized a potentially lucrative opening, responding to demand from increasingly affluent visitors.

This year visitors are free to go along with the sex and drugs and rock'n'roll atmosphere if they want to — but they will also have the option of keeping an eye on their finances. Printed mini-statements will be available for users keen to monitor their bank balance, in addition to the regularly restocked cash supply.

In a nod to the anti-es-

tablishment theme of the festival, NatWest has slightly modified its corporate image and is to locate the facilities in a caravan.

The cash machine will allow consumers to buy into the increasingly expensive range of alternative culture on sale at the festival. Stallholders will be playing visitors with everything from new age pendants and jester's hats to wellington boots — essential if it rains. Visitors will also need cash to pay for homeopathic treatments and palm reading or to fund their cravings for Thai noodles or sushi.

NatWest's move is a poignant reflection of a changing Glastonbury ethos.

When the first festival was held in 1970, on the day after Jimi Hendrix died, a few hundred people paid £1 to hear Marc Bolan play. The price included free milk from the local farm.

The following year, organisers decided that other festivals were over-commercialised and invited 12,000 people to listen to David Bowie and Joan Baez for free.

Anthony Frost, a NatWest spokesman, said the service was a practical response to demand and did not represent a final nail in the coffin of the Glastonbury ethos.

"We provided a cheque cashing service last year which proved very popular.

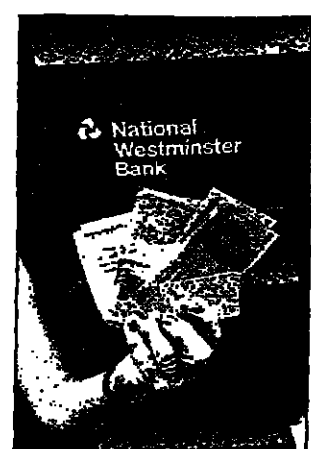
It's three miles to the nearest bank so people were quite grateful for the service. This year we're saying: you just need a cash card and you can rest assured that whatever you get up to, you won't run out of money."

"At the end of the day everyone needs cash, whether they're a hippy or not."

But visitors may still be well advised to stock up on cash before they depart. With just one outlet accepting NatWest, Midland, Visa, TSP, Mastercard and Link cards, and catering for around 100,000 people, the queues for the bank may be even longer than those for the toilets.



Changing image of a music festival... A typical face from Glastonbury's past and this year's big innovation



National Westminster Bank

England exp

Northern wartime HQ moves to E
York as border redrawn in £5

Neil Hencke
Business Correspondent

England's wartime headquarters are to be moved to E
York as the border between the two countries is redrawn in £5

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Tobacconist of choice for the glitterati of the 1960s has reached the end of the road, reports Sarah Hall



The tobacconist's shop once at the hub of swinging London but which is to close down and, top left, a display of its wares

PHOTOGRAPH: RICHARD MARSHALL

Swinging pipe dream snuffed

IT is the shop where a 17-year-old Cilla Black once refused to buy a Havana cigar, where the 1966 Brazilian World Cup team snapped up all the lighters, and past whose Victorian front the Beatles regularly strolled.

Boy George bought his cigarettes there; ITN newscaster Trevor McDonald his Churchill cigars; and Barry Norman his trusty pipe.

It has been around for over 200 years, and has graced Carnaby Street long before it became a fashion and music mecca — and, more latterly, a byword for London tat.

But, from today, Inderwick's — England's Oldest Pipemakers (est. 1797), according to its window — will be no more. The tiny tobacconist, crammed with Victorian ceramic jars of loose tobacco and cigars in mahogany showcases, will close after 84 years in the Soho thoroughfare. It started life in Leicester Square, then moved to Wardour Street.

The owner, Peter Anderson, says the historic shop, with its Victorian panelling and sloping doors, is being forced to shut because it fails to fit the image of late 1990s Carnaby Street.

The new landlord, property company Shaftsbury plc — which bought the street for \$90 million in 1996 — denies this and says the shop is being forced to close because it is unsafe.

As the final tins of cut-price stuff were snapped up by a steady flow of regulars and curious tourists, Mr Anderson, who has owned the company for 44 years, said: "I feel hurt that they want us out after all this time. It is the only decent shop in the street but we have more or less been

told, by the negotiator of the lease, that they don't want a tobacconist in the street."

The 73-year-old, who was given two months to move out after initially failing to renew his lease with the new landlords, said he had been offered an alternative shop around the corner, but it was unsuitable and would not attract passing trade.

Nestled inconspicuously opposite a cheap clothes emporium (combat trousers from \$14.99), and alongside high street familiars Dunkin' Donuts and Boots, the shop is the final remnant of the Carnaby Street of the past — a place which in its mid-sixties heyday was the epicentre of "swinging London".

In the late fifties the street was an obscure backwater. But then along came John Stephen, a 19-year-old Scot, who set up his first shop in 1959 and introduced blaring music and raucous flamboyant fashion to the area. Other enterprising young designers moved in; rock stars flocked there; and Carnaby Street was born.

As veteran customers lamented the shop's closure, Shaftsbury plc's chief executive, Jonathan Lane, said it was being enforced after a survey showed that the listed building was structurally unsafe.

He expected that the work — involving replacing wooden pillars and repairing a crack in the front beam — would take a year to complete, after which Inderwick's would be welcome to apply once again for a lease.

Back at the shop, Mr Anderson said he was not sad to leave the street.

"These days, he explained, "there's more than a bit of tat around here".



Last orders... Inderwick proprietors, Peter Anderson, and (left) his assistant, Dominic Bell

PHOTOGRAPH: RICHARD MARSHALL

The rise and fall of Carnaby Street

The Sixties

CUSTOMERS: Beatles, Rolling Stones, Sonny and Cher, Yardbirds, Kinks, Small Faces, Cliff Richard, George Melly, Pete Townsend, Elizabeth Taylor.

SHOPS: Mary Quant, Lord John, John Stephen's 19 shops selling hipster trousers, elephant cords and kipper ties.

AVERAGE PURCHASE: Velvet flares with 12-inch bell bottoms.

LOOK: Regency jackets, crushed velvet loons, kaftans, hipsters, old Hussar tunics.

CARS: Cadillacs, Rolls-Royces (11 owned by designers in the street), Lamborghinis.



Swinging high: Carnaby Street in 1967

The Nineties

CUSTOMERS: Tourists of all nationalities, school truants, nostalgic swingers, musing on being one-time dedicated followers of fashion.

SHOPS: Whittard, Boots, Body Shop, Shelly's Shoes, Angelic.

AVERAGE PURCHASE: Scented floating candle, Boots sandwich, London postcards.

LOOK: Run-of-the-mill high street garb.

CARS: None. The area is now pedestrianised.

England expects... Scots to rally to its defence

Northern wartime HQ moves to Edinburgh from York as border redrawn in £500m cuts

David Honeke
Edinburgh Correspondent

THE protection of half of England from foreign invaders is set to be handed over to Scotland in the biggest act of revenge against the Sassanids since Bonnie Prince Charlie fled the field of Culloden in 1746.

Scottish-born Cabinet minis-

ters George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, and Chancellor Gordon Brown are poised to redraw the England/Scotland border for military purposes, drawing a line from the Humber to the Mersey. Everything north of it will fall under the control of Edinburgh headquarters — the first time troops north of the border will have had control of England since the Jacobite invasion.

The change is being triggered by demands for defence savings of £500 million a year. The full extent of the cuts will be announced on July 15.

Top of the list for administrative cuts is Land Command, responsible for Britain's wartime defence. Its six divisions will be cut to three, leaving defence strategy run from Edinburgh, Shrewsbury and Wiltshire. Headquarters in London, Aldershot and York will close. The changes are backed by army commander General Michael Walker.

The changes affecting Edin-

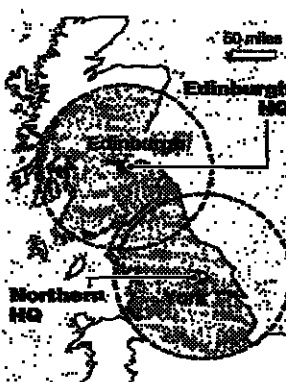
burgh and York have met with outrage among the military. Hugh Bayley, Labour MP for York, has received over 300 letters of protest. They range from polite complaints from former officers to very rude attacks on the Scots, he said.

The moves have also met with fierce opposition from the Ministry of Defence trade union body, the Whitley Council, led by a Scotsman, Ian MacLaren. Mr MacLaren has written to John Reid, the Scottish-born minister of state for the armed forces, warning him: "There could be

strong opposition from the North of England about the proposal to locate the Northern HQ, commanding their troops in a country that could become independent."

Among the major points being pressed to keep York as a headquarters include the fact that it has a hardened command centre built to withstand nuclear attack, and is much nearer most troops. Yorkshire is also the largest army recruiting centre.

The MoD refused to comment and neither Mr Robertson nor Mr Reid was available.



Lewinsky 'ready to admit' sex with Clinton

Martin Kettle in Washington

MONICA Lewinsky has offered to testify to investigators that she had sex with Bill Clinton, in a potentially major setback for the White House in the long-running scrutiny of the president's private life.

However, the former White House intern is resisting efforts by the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, for her to plead guilty to perjury as part of a deal with prosecutors. Mr Starr is refusing to grant Ms Lewinsky immunity in return for her evidence.

The new developments were leaked to the Washington Post yesterday, only days after Mr Starr enraged the White House by admitting that he and his team had briefed reporters about evidence given to the grand jury investigating possible charges against Mr Clinton.

The Post claims that Ms Lewinsky's new Washington-based legal team has offered that she will testify to having sex with Mr Clinton, but Mr Starr wants her to plead guilty to an offence as part of any deal. At the heart of the negotiations is Ms Lewinsky's refusal to hand Mr Starr the "smoking gun" he is seeking, by testifying that she was encouraged to lie on oath by Mr Clinton or his friend Vernon Jordan.

She testified on January 7 that she had not had a sexual relationship with Mr Clinton and has so far stuck to that story, despite Mr Starr's efforts in recent months to disprove her denial.

If Ms Lewinsky were to implicate Mr Clinton in attempts to obstruct justice by getting her to lie under oath, the charge would inevitably become the centrepiece of a report submitted by Mr Starr to Congress, and the cornerstone of any impeachment proceedings. A sitting president cannot be tried in the criminal courts.

If she were to implicate Mr Jordan sufficiently for charges to be brought against him, Ms Lewinsky would have to testify against him, and Mr Clinton might be subpoenaed to appear as a witness in the proceedings. Constitutional lawyers are divided about whether a president may disregard such a subpoena.

A third option might be to charge Ms Lewinsky herself with an offence such as perjury, and for Mr Starr again to subpoena Mr Jordan and Mr Clinton to give evidence in the



Lewinsky: Seeks immunity in return for her testimony

case. Ms Lewinsky's lawyers are said to be preparing for this possibility, and to be confident that they could secure her acquittal, if for no other reason than that a jury may not want to convict a young woman for lying about sex.

Ms Lewinsky's previous lawyer, William Ginsburg, failed several times this year to reach agreement with Mr Starr on an immunity deal. Her new lawyers, Plato Cacheris and Jacob Stein, have made clear that their objective in taking over the case is to reach an agreement with Mr Starr.

The Post said that despite the seeming gulf between them, both Mr Starr's team and Ms Lewinsky's lawyers are optimistic of a deal.

Washington legal sources say the dilemma for Mr Starr is that although Ms Lewinsky could be a damaging witness against Mr Clinton or Mr Jordan if she implicates them, she would face searching cross-examination over her reliability and consistency.

As if to underline that point, the magazine US News & World Report yesterday reported it had listened to two of the 20 hours of telephone calls by Ms Lewinsky that were secretly recorded by her friend Linda Tripp last year. The magazine said Ms Lewinsky seemed obsessed with Clinton, but that the tapes to which it had access left ambiguous whether there was a sexual relationship.

Any evidence given by Ms Lewinsky that she did indeed have sex with Mr Clinton would contradict his unambiguous denials to Paula Jones's lawyers and to the press. In January 1998 an angry Mr Clinton told a news conference: "I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky."

US joins Palestinian protest over Israeli 'annexation'

continued from page 1

services, notably building and planning. Settlements normally have to get building approval from the defence ministry.

"It is the first time that regional powers concerning a region of the West Bank will be vested in a civilian Israeli organ," Danny Seidemann, an Israeli lawyer and peace activist, said.

The US has called for a "time-out" on any expansion of Jewish settlements, in an effort to help restart the stalled peace talks. The Palestinians hope to establish an independent state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which Israel occupied in 1967, with east Jerusalem as its capital.

The larger blocks of settlements around Jerusalem are widely expected to be annexed by Israel in any final peace settlement. But the Israel-Palestinian interim accords call on the two sides to refrain from unilateral measures that "change the status of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, pending the outcome of the permanent status negotiations".

Those negotiations, which are supposed to be completed by next May, have not yet begun.

Hundreds of Israelis living in prosperous suburbs west of Jerusalem demonstrated against the plan yesterday, vowing to take it to the supreme court. Many moved out of Jerusalem to flee the steadily rising influence of the religious community, many members of which do not work or pay taxes.

"We are not going to pay for the Haredi [ultra-Orthodox] neighbourhoods in Jerusalem," said one angry resident of Mevasseret Zion.

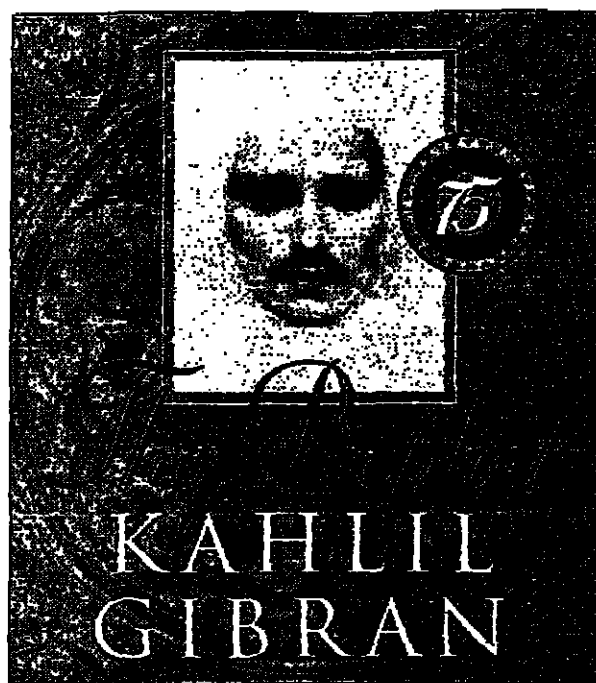
FOUR EVER SPICE?

THE FOUR SPICES GIVE THEIR FIRST T.V. INTERVIEW ON CHANNEL 4.

'MIAMI SPICE'. TONIGHT. 6PM.



The 75th anniversary gift edition of *The Prophet*, which posits a Unity of Being achievable through love. Synthesising ancient and modern, East and West, it is cited as the century's most widely read book, having sold 10m copies in English alone



KAHLIL GIBRAN

Kahlil Gibran (right), revered prophet of the New Age who is alleged to have been an alcoholic womaniser

Kahlil Gibran on love: Love gives naught but itself and takes naught but from itself. Love possesses not nor would it be possessed. For love is sufficient unto love.

On marriage: Give your hearts, but not into each other's keeping.

For only the hand of life can contain your hearts. And stand together yet not too near together. For the pillars of the temple stand apart. And the oak tree and the cypress grow not in each other's shadow.

On pleasure: Pleasure is a freedom-song.

But it is not the freedom. It is the blossoming of your desires. But it is not the fruit.

On death: Only when you drink from the river of silence shall you indeed sing. And when you have reached the mountain top, then you shall begin to climb.

New Age guru 'was age-old hypocrite'

Stuart Miller

HE IS probably the best-selling poet of all time after Shakespeare and Lao-tzu. His books have sold more than 10 million copies in English alone. Even now, he is revered as a guru and an inspiration of the New Age movement.

But now, 75 years after the publication of his most famous work, *The Prophet*, it has emerged that Kahlil Gibran — poet, philosopher, artist —

may not have been quite as the legend portrays him. A biography to be published in August has already caused a storm among Gibran's followers, with claims that he was unable to live up to his own reputation as a saintly icon, but was a troubled romantic, a womaniser and liar who died from alcoholism at the age of 48.

Gibran was born in Lebanon in 1883, but moved to the United States at the age of 12, where he lived as a penniless immigrant in the Boston slums.

By the early 1900s his writing, poetry and painting had given him a reputation as a guru or "master" among a circle of society people impressed by his charisma, talent and exotic orientalism.

But it was the publication of *The Prophet* in 1923 which catapulted him to wider recognition. It tells the story of the prophet Almustafa, who delivers to the people of Orphalese 28 lessons on topics ranging from prayer and pleasure to clothes and houses.

Despite being criticised as trite, sentimental and lightweight, its ideas became an inspiration for millions — although Gibran did not live to see the book's success. In 1960 it was adored by hippies; in the 1970s no fan of Cae Stevens or George Harrison's Indian Mystic phase would have been seen without it.

The book is still cited as an inspiration — the passages on love are reckoned to be second in popularity to the Bible for wedding services. In May, it featured in the Caribbean wedding of the Boyzone heartthrobs, Ronan Keating.

But the new biography, *Prophet: The Life and Times of*

Kahlil Gibran, paints a very different picture. Written by Robin Waterfield, it claims that while the popular image projected a knowledgeable, ascetic prophet in reality the "moralising preacher" was insecure, worldly and sexual. Lonely, ambitious and craving acceptance, he invented a fictional past and a series of parables — from suffering Romantic and Angry Young Man to his final incarnation as the Prophet of New York — to ingratiate himself into literary society.

According to Waterfield, Gibran was telling people it was crucial for him to live his philosophy, not merely write it. His desire was to be a teacher and to "awaken people to consciousness". But in 1921, as he was writing *The Prophet*, he confided to a friend: "I am a false alarm."

Although he wrote movingly of love, Waterfield says he was plagued by a womaniser's lust. Gibran's creative genius, he concludes he was also a consummate liar, abusive to Mary Haskell, arrogant, narcissistic, mock-modest, self-indulgent, unable to bear the tension

of living up to his adopted persona, Gibran began drinking heavily. On April 10, 1931, he died of cirrhosis of the liver.

Waterfield's conclusions have already been challenged by a major study of Gibran, by Joe Jenkins and Suhail Bushri, who deny he was a hypocrite or ever set out to moralise or preach.

But while Waterfield recognises Gibran's creative genius, he concludes he was also a consummate liar, abusive to Mary Haskell, arrogant, narcissistic, mock-modest, self-indulgent, unable to bear the tension

Selling shells spoils shore

John Ezzard

HE sells sea-shells on the seashore, according to the first line of Terry Sullivan's famous music hall tongue-twister composed in 1906.

But not any more, if the Tidy Britain Group has its way. Not only will the sale of shells on the shore become politically incorrect, but children will be discouraged even from the age-old habit of collecting them in a bucket and arranging them on a bedroom shelf at home.

This is because they could be wearing out the beach. A 10-point group code launched yesterday on Bournemouth beach tells children: "Don't take natural things like shells and driftwood off the beach."

"Capture the camera on camera. Use a camera to record your memories." The code also urges them not to leave or disturb wildlife and to clean up after dogs.

Trevor Dixon, a marine scientist who advises the group, said robbing the coast of shells could cause erosion. "The cumulative effect of taking shells over the years in some areas is that it can undermine the sand and make it blowy."

"There can be species living in shells which will die if the shell is taken away". People hacking away at cliffs for fossils could also cause coastal erosion.

The new code stresses: "Take nothing but photographs leaving nothing but footprints. Waste nothing but time".

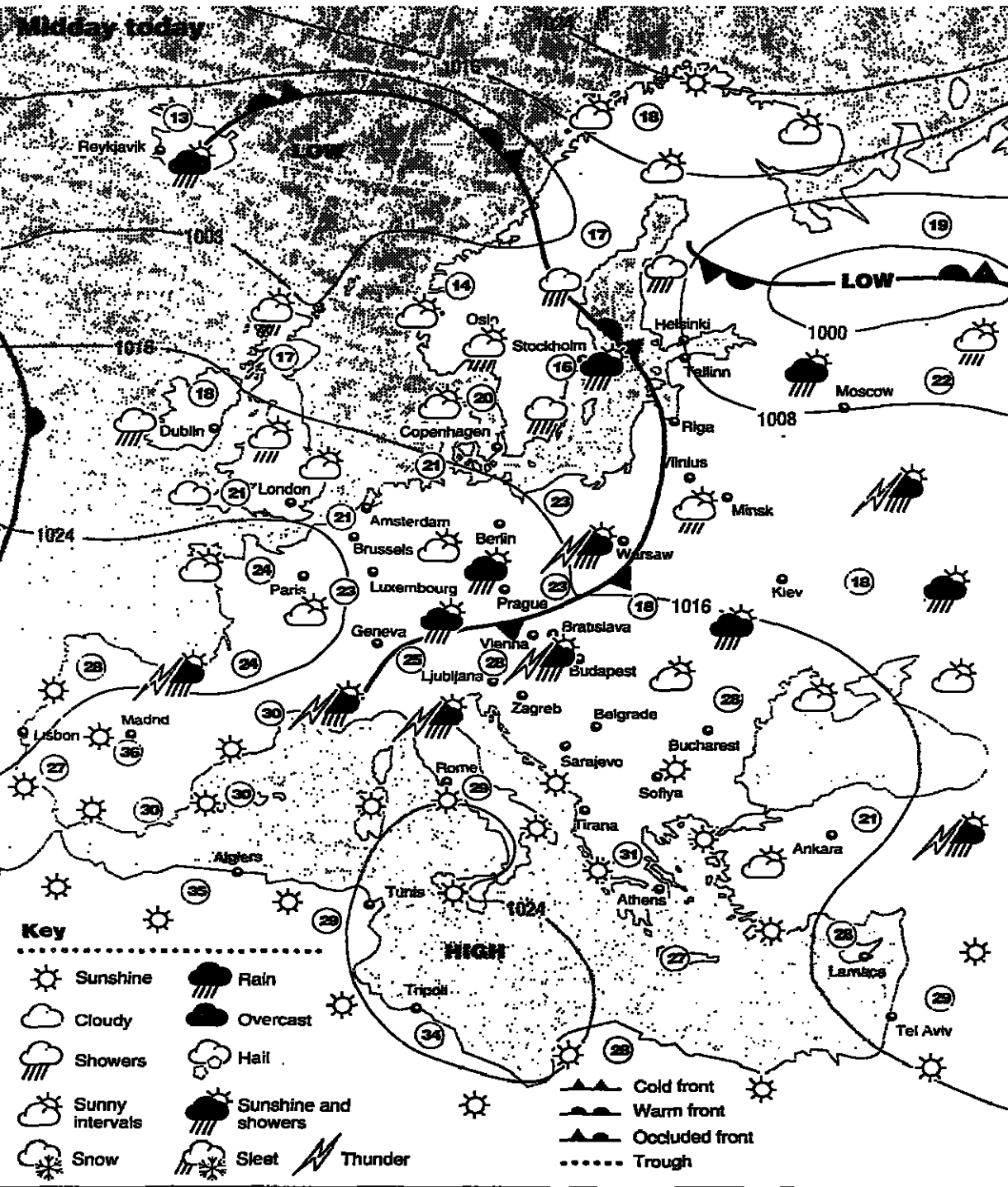
Susan Huller, curator of shell museum at Glandford, near Cromer, Norfolk, said she thought that the TBG was going too far with its guidelines on shell collecting.

"Although she could understand advice on litter and wildlife."

Terry Sullivan's earlier sea-shell song, long taught to children to foster exact speech, goes:

She sells sea-shells on the seashore. The shells she sells are sea-shells, I'm sure. For if she sells sea-shells on the seashore, Then I'm sure she sells sea-shore weak.

The weather in Europe



European outlook

Scandinavia

Denmark and south-west Norway will become fine with sunny spells after the clearing of any overnight showers. Eastern Norway and southern Sweden will have a lot of cloud with a band of showers rain move erratically eastwards. Meanwhile, southern Finland will be rather cool and unsettled with some rain, but northern Finland and northern Sweden will be dry and sunny. Max temp 18-20C.

Low Countries, Germany, Austria, Switzerland

The Low Countries and western Germany will be cooler and much less humid than recently, but will be fine with good sunny spells. Elsewhere there is a risk of heavy showers and local thunderstorms, but after a sultry start it will turn fresher as the thunder showers move through. Max temp ranging from 15C on the Dutch coast to 21C in southern Switzerland.

France

Overnight showers and thunderstorms in the south and east will move away to leave a good deal of fine weather and some light showers. Hotter and less oppressive than recently. Max temp mostly 22-25C, but locally 30C on the Mediterranean coast.

Spain and Portugal

Mostly fine and hot with strong sunshine, but cooler and cloudy in the far north with some early showers. Max temp mostly about 30C away from the north coast, and very hot 40C in Sevilla.

Italy

A risk of some thunderstorms over the Alps but mostly sunny and hot. Max temp 28-32C.

Greece

A summery day with blue skies and almost uninterrupted hot sunshine. Max temp 28-32C.

Around the world

Yesterday's forecasts

Algeria	25-32	London	13-18	Los Angeles	21-30
Amman	25-32	Madrid	14-19	Manila	26-32
Amsterdam	12-17	Moscow	14-19	Mexico City	21-28
Antwerp	12-17	Nairobi	15-20	Mumbai	28-34
Athens	28-34	Paris	13-18	Norfolk	18-24
Auckland	13-18	Rome	14-19	Osaka	24-30
Bahia	25-32	Stockholm	12-17	Perth	18-24
Bangkok	28-34	Taipei	22-28	Port of Spain	28-34
Barcelona	18-24	Tel Aviv	28-34	Prague	18-24
Bombay	28-34	Ulaanbaatar	12-17	Rangoon	28-34
Buenos Aires	18-24	Warsaw	13-18	Reykjavik	12-17
Burgas	25-32	Winnipeg	12-17	Riga	12-17
Calcutta	28-34	Zagreb	13-18	Sofia	18-24
Cardiff	10-15	Yokohama	21-28	Tbilisi	21-28
Chicago	18-24			Tokyo	24-30
Cairo	28-34			Toronto	18-24
Canton	28-34			Ulaanbaatar	12-17
Cebu	28-34			Vancouver	18-24
Dhaka	28-34			Vladivostok	18-24
Dublin	13-18			Yokohama	21-28
Edinburgh	8-13			Zagreb	13-18
Fukuoka	25-32				
Glasgow	7-12				
Hankow	28-34				
Hong Kong	28-34				
Kobe	24-30				
Kuala Lumpur	28-34				
Lahore	28-34				
London	13-18				
Lyons	13-18				
Manila	26-32				
Medan	26-32				
Moscow	14-19				
Mumbai	28-34				
Nairobi	15-20				
Norfolk	18-24				
Osaka	24-30				
Perth	18-24				
Port of Spain	28-34				
Prague	18-24				
Rangoon	28-34				
Reykjavik	12-17				
Riga	12-17				
Sofia	18-24				
Tbilisi	21-28				
Tokyo	24-30				
Toronto	18-24				
Ulaanbaatar	12-17				
Vancouver	18-24				
Vladivostok	18-24				
Yokohama	21-28				
Zagreb	13-18				

Television and radio

BBC 1

7.00am Business Breakfast, 8.00am BBC Breakfast, 9.00am News, 10.00am The News, 10.30am The News, 11.00am The News, 11.30am The News, 12.00pm The News, 12.30pm The News, 1.00pm The News, 1.30pm The News, 2.00pm The News, 2.30pm The News, 3.00pm The News, 3.30pm The News, 4.00pm The News, 4.30pm The News, 5.00pm The News, 5.30pm The News, 6.00pm The News, 6.30pm The News, 7.00pm The News, 7.30pm The News, 8.00pm The News, 8.30pm The News, 9.00pm The News, 9.30pm The News, 10.00pm The News, 10.30pm The News, 11.00pm The News, 11.30pm The News, 12.00pm The News, 12.30pm The News, 1.00pm The News, 1.30pm The News, 2.00pm The News, 2.30pm The News, 3.00pm The News, 3.30pm The News, 4.00pm The News, 4.30pm The News, 5.00pm The News, 5.30pm The News, 6.00pm The News, 6.30pm The News, 7.00pm The News, 7.30pm The News, 8.00pm The News, 8.30pm The News, 9.00pm The News, 9.30pm The News, 10.00pm The News, 10.30pm The News, 11.00pm The News, 11.30pm The News, 12.00pm The News, 12.30pm The News, 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Selling shells spoils shore

John Eazard

SE shells sea-shells in the sea-shore, and Terry Sullivan's famous music hall tongue-twister composed in 1908.

But not any more. If the way, not only will the sale of shells on the shore be come politically incorrect, aged even to be disreputable, but it will also be a bad habit of collecting them is them on a bedroom shelf.

This is because they could be wearing on the road. A 10-point group Bourne-mouth beach in children. Don't take them. It's a bad habit of collecting them is them on a bedroom shelf.

Capture the coast on camera. Use a camera to record your memories. The end also urges them not to take shells with them and to clean up after them.

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Iranian fans (left) ready for tonight's confrontation against the US in Lyon, and (right) an English fan relaxing before today's game against Romania in Toulouse.

PHOTOGRAPHS: TOM JENKINS and GAIL CORNER



Evil Empire opponents lose chance to cheer Great Satan



SINCE fate worked its magic and the United States (aka The Great Satan) were drawn in the same group as Iran (aka The Evil Empire mark two), the tie has taken on a cultural and political significance of incredible proportions.

So imagine the outrage when it emerged yesterday that hundreds of Iranian exiles opposed to the Tehran regime had been refused entry to France as if they were no better than

a gang of marauding English hooligans. The French interior ministry said the decision had been taken for "reasons of public order". Iranian opposition groups denounced the decision as a violation of human rights.

The dispute was not a happy sign, especially if we were to believe US defender Alexei Lalas who claimed yesterday that the result could "determine the future of the planet". Then again, perhaps not.

It wasn't just Iranian exiles who were getting agitated at the weekend. Thousands of miles away from the heroes and hyperbole of France 98, Bangladeshi football fans attacked cars and buses after a power blackout disrupted their World Cup coverage. The fact that such fury could erupt in a country without a team in the tournament may not be too remarkable. The fact that they were watching Japan versus Croatia certainly is.

POOR old George Cohen. After a 14-year battle with cancer, the former England full-back made the tough decision to sell his 1966 World Cup winner's medal to provide security for him and his wife, Daphne, in their retirement. But on Saturday, the medal remained unsold after failing to realise its reserve price of £20,000 at Christie's auction of football memorabilia. Maybe they should have thought twice before putting an England

World Cup winner's medal on sale in Glasgow.

ENGLAND coach Glenn Hoddle received a fax from the Prime Minister yesterday wishing him luck in today's game against Romania. Mr Blair also expressed his hope that the game would not be marred by violence. Once upon a time, correspondence like this would have been regarded as inspiring. But with the PM desperate to bask in reflected World

Cup glory, such messages have become as much a pre-match ritual as Paul Ince refusing to put on his shirt before he is out of the tunnel. Or Jimmy Hill talking rubbish.

JUST when it looked like the World Cup cash-ins could not possibly get any tackier, news reaches the diary of perhaps the saddest attempt so far. Ann Summers — never noted for a high taste threshold — has released a range of pat-

riotic naughty undies with imaginative names like "Alan", a posing pouch for men, and "Striker", a micro bikini for women.

In a perfect world, such cash-ins would sink without trace, but a Channel 5 programme, Sex and Shopping, to be aired this week, says lingerie and sex toy party bookings have shot up 30 per cent since the start of the World Cup. Source: the Ann Summers organisation. Stuart Millar

Diary

Tory sacked by his party seven months ago exchanges compliments with Blair

MP marks defection to Labour with attack on 'weak' Hague

Lucy Ward Political Correspondent

THE veteran MP Peter Temple-Morris yesterday marked the final stage of his defection from the Conservative Party to Labour with an attack on the "weak leadership" of William Hague.

Mr Temple-Morris, aged 60, who was sacked from the party seven months ago amid defiance over Europe and has since described himself as an independent One Nation Conservative, outlined to his constituency party and in weekly interviews a series of

harsh criticisms of current Tory policy. He also made clear that though he will stand down from his Leominster seat at the next election, he has no plans to resign and force a by-election immediately, despite a challenge from Tory deputy chairman Michael Ancram to test local voters' support for his decision to take the Labour whip.

The catalyst prompting him to sever all ties with the Conservatives had been his former party's arm's length policies on Europe and the single currency, said the MP, who backed pro-European Kenneth Clarke at last summer's

Tory leadership election. The "last straw" had been the Conservative attitude over the bipartisan policy on Northern Ireland, jeopardised last week when the Tories opposed the Government over the bill dealing with prisoner releases.

He told the BBC's Breakfast with Frost programme that Mr Hague's style of leadership was weak. Tory former chancellor Kenneth Clarke added to his woes by returning to the attack over the single currency, predicting a return to a "sensible policy" on Europe by the Tories shortly.

Mr Temple-Morris has been exchanging warm praise with Tony Blair, whom he described as "without doubt the most exciting political phenomenon on the European political stage".

Mr Blair, who last welcomed a Tory defector when Alan Howarth — now an employment minister — crossed the floor of the House, praised Mr Temple-Morris's decision "to put his faith and future in the Labour Party" and stressed his respect for the new recruit.

The former Tory, who emphasised no deals had been done in return for his transfer, said New Labour had moved towards his beliefs, while the Tories have shifted away.

While 10 years ago he would have been almost automatically to the SDP or the Liberal Democrats, he now felt much of what he and the Lib Dems wanted was being done by Mr Blair.

James Wilson

MINISTERS will be asked to explain in the Commons today how staff at a Ministry of Defence research laboratory were able to download tens of thousands of pornographic images from the Internet.

Two civil servants and three sub-contracted employees working at the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (Dera) in Malvern, Worcestershire, were suspended 18 months ago after pornographic material was discovered by a military policeman carrying out a routine computer check. It emerged yesterday.

One of the suspended civil servants, Paul Roper, who works in the IT department, was acquitted of possessing indecent photographs of children at Drolwich magistrates court two weeks ago but still faces possible MoD disciplinary proceedings.

Mr Roper said yesterday: "I don't believe I have done anything that was even dubious and I will be fully exonerated in the long run." Mr Roper, who has worked at the Malvern establishment for more than 20 years, said the offending material had been downloaded automatically by a news server that acquired items from the Internet and posted them on an internal network. One hundred and seventy thousand pornographic images were allegedly on the system, accessible to 4,000 Dera employees.

This situation has put me and my family through hell, but winning the court case was a wonderful relief," he said. "I just hope something positive comes out of it."

A Dera spokesperson said: "I should emphasise that Mr Roper has been acquitted, but we will be looking to see if there is anything in his conduct that goes against our internal code of conduct." Dera will also look at the conduct of the other suspended civil servant.

Straw vows to keep youths safe

Lucy Ward and Ewen MacAskill

HOME Secretary Jack Straw will today seek reassurance over tonight's free vote on lowering the age of homosexual consent by promising that the Government will legislate to protect vulnerable 18 and 17-year-olds of both sexes from abuse by those in authority.

The move, to be announced before an expected decisive vote in favour of reducing the age of consent from 18 to 16, has already helped allay concerns voiced by fellow cabinet members David Blunkett and Frank Dobson, who both discussed moves to strengthen protection of young people with Mr Straw.

Mr Blunkett yesterday said he had decided not to oppose tonight's move to equalise the homosexual and heterosexual age of consent, but had not yet decided whether to vote in favour or abstain.

The proposal would mean a two-tier age of consent, applying equally to same-sex and

opposite sex relationships. The basic age of consent for all would be 16, but that would rise to 18 if one partner were in a position of authority over another.

The pressure group OutRage! said it intends to capitalise on today's vote to urge a further reduction from age 16 to 14, to the fury of Church and family campaigners.

It will also press for the raft of discrepancies in the law on homosexual and heterosexual sex to be abolished through the repeal of discriminatory sexual offences and for legal recognition of same-sex relationships.

MPs are being given a free vote on a report stage amendment to the Crime and Disorder Bill proposing equalising the age of consent at 16.

Downing Street yesterday reinforced the message that the vote is a matter of conscience for MPs after the Archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey, objected to Tony Blair over the move to equalise ages of consent, claiming it would send "wrong messages" about the way young people should be

have. Anglican bishops outlined their opposition to the change at the weekend, issuing a statement warning that leaders of the Church and state had a duty to protect young people from harm and exploitation and to offer them a vision of what is good". They are also urging resistance against "pressures to legitimise every kind of lifestyle".

The intervention is unlikely to affect the outcome of today's vote, the bishops are expected to play a leading role in attempting to overturn the expected vote when the bill moves to the Lords.

The issue is returning to Parliament four years after the Commons voted to lower the age of homosexual consent from 21 to 18.

The run-up to that debate saw one of the biggest parliamentary lobbies ever organised, sparking thousands of letters to MPs, public discussion of the position of lesbians and gay men in society, and a vigil outside the Commons on the night of the vote.

This time, strength of feeling among gay campaigners is as fervent as ever, though a quiet confidence of victory has kept debate lower key.

Actor Michael Cashman, the EastEnders actor and writer, said he had canvassed data, told a Labour students' meeting last week that a vote for equality would mean "at one stroke we will have begun the end of the long march for human rights and civil liberties in this country".

The government is officially neutral on the issue, though Mr Straw has made clear he personally strongly supports equalisation.

MPs voting today will be making a historic decision for Britain, yet even equalising the age of consent will do no more than bring this country into line with the rest of the European Union.

Until last week, only Britain, Finland and Austria opposed an unequal age of consent for homosexuals and heterosexuals. Last Monday, the Finnish parliament voted overwhelmingly for equalisation at 18. By the end of today, Austria looks set to be the only EU country still to remain the exception.

Patchy summer spurs Government aid to make English wine sparkle

James Melkio

THE Government is planning a rescue for the English wine industry as a patchy summer looks set to produce yet another poor vintage.

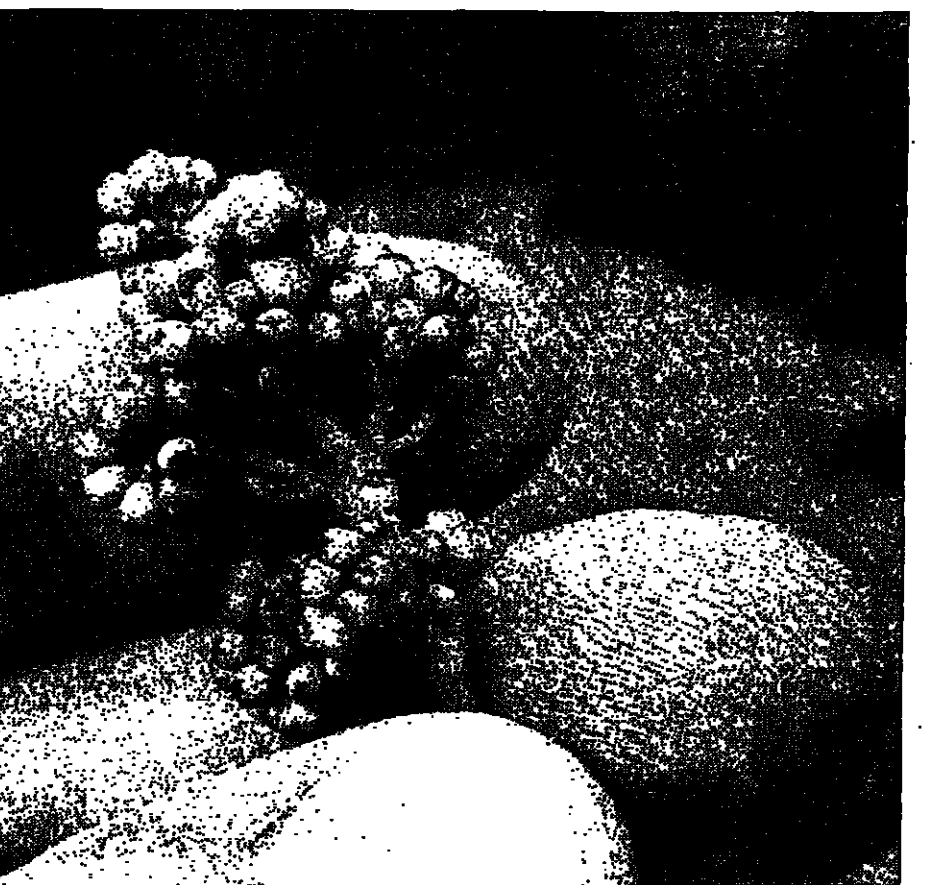
The industry has struggled to achieve a niche in the British market, and it will need more than a late burst of sunny weather. Vineyards are desperate to avoid another lean year like last year, which had late frosts, rain in July, and the worst production figures since 1988.

Growers want steady sunshine for the rest of the summer to ripen the grapes and consolidate sales, which have doubled over five years despite fluctuations in the harvest.

Lord Donaghue, the food and farming minister, said: "Traditionally, many people have seen English wine as a cottage industry for wine buffs and gentleman farmers. They need to think again. Though production is inevitably limited by our weather, any English wines now being produced can compete with the best in the world."

It is understood the help is likely to involve improving networking and promotional skills within the industry, rather than large sums of money, and build on measures to improve standards — the quality wine scheme introduced in 1991, and the regional wine scheme which followed last year.

Producers say the crisp, fruity, herbaceous, hedgerow taste of the best English whites and sparkling wines should encourage consumers' memories of poor imitations of Liebfraumilch or "British" wines, made from imported concentrate. But the 1.4



Harvest hope... grapes begin to form at the Three Choirs vineyard in Gloucestershire after another patchy season. PHOTOGRAPH: CHRISTOPHER JONES

million litres sold in 1996-7 are still drops in the wine glass compared to the 702 million litres of foreign wines sold in this country.

The number of vineyards rose sharply in the early 90s but has now fallen back to about 400, few more than in 1988.

Ian Berwick, chairman of the United Kingdom Vineyards Association and owner of the Brunsford vineyard, near Fram-

lingham, Suffolk, said: "We are never going to produce huge quantities of cheap wine."

"We are going to produce 'interesting' wines."

"We had a very good spring, there was no late frost, and the next critical phase is mid-July when we are flowering. So far the flower clusters are showing on the vines and there is the potential for a very good crop. This time last

year we had already lost two-thirds. The quality for 1997 was superb but the quantity was not there."

Martin Fowke, production director for Three Choirs, based near Gloucester, said: "Over the last few years, with 1996 being an exception, we have sold more than we have produced so our stocks are lower. It is a precarious industry but the foundations are there."



Joined in stormy marriage: Yezhin and Isadora Duncan

Trotsky blamed for murder of one of Russia's greatest poets

James Meek in Moscow

THE RUSSIAN authorities have rejected a relative's request to reopen the investigation into the death in 1935 of one of Russia's greatest poets, Sergei Yezhin, after a new claim that he was murdered by the secret police to stop him emigrating to Britain.

Officially, Yezhin, best known in the West for his brief, abrasive marriage to the American dancer Isadora Duncan, committed suicide in the Hotel Anglerie in Leningrad. His death at the age of 30, and the eight-line poem he wrote in his own blood before hanging himself with a suitcase strap, shook Russia. His death triggered a wave of suicides among the country's Bohemian literati. Vladimir Mayakovsky, who wrote a counter-verse to Yezhin's

Written in blood?

See you again, my friend, I'll see you
Good friend, you're here inside me
The foretold parting is a promise to
Be, one day, once more, beside me.

See you again, my friend, no words, no hand
Don't grieve, don't let your brow betray you
In life there's nothing new in a dying man
But to live, of course, is not so new.

ina, appealed to the Russian prosecutors' department to reopen the investigation. The director of the Yezhin museum in Moscow, Svetlana Shetrakova, said yesterday the request had been turned down.

Last year, the prosecutors completed a re-examination of the case, coming to the conclusion he really did commit suicide.

One prosecutor went so far as to hang himself by the neck from a ceiling and swing around the room in an attempt to recreate the mysterious external injuries found on Yezhin's body. He succeeded (and survived the experiment). The hardest point for the

Ms Shetrakova's museum behind the South African embassy in Moscow is as much a temple as an exhibition space. In one room, a huge mirror with the letter "Ye" for Yezhin, surrounded by a laurel wreath, is reflected in another mirror with the letter "R" for Russia, surrounded by a wreath of barbed wire.

Havel to be kingmaker as Czechs swing left

Ian Traynor in Prague

THE Czech president, Vaclav Havel, was thrust into the role of kingmaker yesterday after a general election left the Social Democrats as the strongest party for the first time in modern Czech history but returned a hung parliament.

Voters in the two-day poll on Friday and Saturday crowned Milos Zeman's Social Democrats as the comfortable winner with 32.3 per cent of the vote. It gave him a sweet victory over his arch-rival and former prime minister, Vaclav Klaus, whose Civic Democratic Party could only manage 27.7 per cent.



Leap to liberty: Conrad Schumann escapes to West Berlin in 1961, two days after East Germany started building the Berlin Wall PHOTOGRAPH: PETER LEIBING

Escape soldier found hanged

Denis Staunton in Berlin

A FORMER East German soldier who was photographed leaping across barbed wire to freedom during the building of the Berlin Wall committed suicide on Saturday at his home in southern Germany.

Thirty-seven years after his spectacular flight to West Berlin, Conrad Schumann, aged 56, hanged himself in his garden in Kipfenberg, Bavaria.

The machine engineer did not leave a note. Police said "private reasons" were probably behind his suicide. His body was found by his wife.

Schumann was a 19-year-old soldier charged with stopping East Germans from crossing to the West when he made his own escape on August 15 1961, two days after the communist authorities started building the wall.

The photograph of his jump — called Step into Freedom — was flashed around the world.

Schumann was the first member of the East German security forces to escape to the West. Although the authorities replaced the barbed wire barrier with a double concrete wall fortified by landmines, about 2,100 soldiers and policemen escaped before the wall was destroyed in 1989.

A spokesman for the Berlin museum at Checkpoint Charlie, which documents the history of the wall, expressed shock at the death.

"We can't take it in," the spokesman said. "The poster of his escape was the biggest seller here. People stood in queues for his autograph."

Germany's partying gays seek legal equality

Denis Staunton in Berlin

TENS OF thousands of German gays and lesbians celebrated their lifestyle at a street party in Berlin yesterday amid a political storm over plans to give same-sex partners the same rights as married couples.

Three federal states have tabled a motion in Germany's upper house of parliament, the Bundesrat, calling for an end to legal discrimination against gay and lesbian couples. The bill would extend to same-sex partnerships all privileges now enjoyed by married couples, including

the right to refuse to testify against one another in court and the right to adopt children.

Germany's family minister, Claudia Nolte, claimed the motion would send out "the wrong signal" and undermine the constitutional protection of marriage and the family.

She suggested same-sex couples could overcome any legal difficulties by drawing up private contracts but insisted that heterosexual marriage must retain its special position under the law.

"It's not the case that everyone the state doesn't promote is discriminated against," she said.

The Green Party spokesman on legal affairs, Volker Beck, said Ms Nolte was being untruthful when she claimed private contracts were a substitute for equality legisla-

tion. "These contracts have no influence on a couple's relationship with a third party or with the state," he said.

The Bundesrat motion, which is backed by the governments of Hamburg, Schleswig-Holstein and Lower Saxony, is likely to become law if Chancellor Helmut Kohl's centre-right government loses

office in September's federal election.

A change in the law would bring Germany into line with Denmark, Norway, Sweden and the Netherlands.

Police frequently decline to inform same-sex partners in the event of an accident and doctors sometimes refuse to discuss medical details with anyone other than the next of kin.

Many gay men who lost their partners through AIDS have been shut out of funeral arrangements by blood relatives.

The mood at Berlin's two-day street festival was upbeat as thousands danced, cruised and chatted in the scorching heat.

The rainbow flag flew from the town hall as gay politicians and activists from a number of European

countries discussed the next steps towards achieving equality.

Commenting on the slow pace of official German moves to compensate gay people persecuted by the Nazis, Irish senator David Norris called on all European countries to make amends.

"Isn't it time there was reparation and penitence for the crimes committed against gay people?"

"These crimes have been committed in every single European country at one level of intensity or another," he said.

Gay reform, page 5

News in brief

Gulf war linked to sixfold rise in Iraqi cancer rates

CANCER cases increased by as much as sixfold in parts of southern Iraq after the 1990-91 Gulf war, according to a United Nations document based on Iraqi government figures.

Iraq says it has been hit by an epidemic of cancer in the south, where the United States and Britain fired depleted uranium (DU) shells during the offensive to recapture Kuwait. The UN document did not suggest a cause for the increase.

Rebel threat to kidnap Marcos

FILIPINO communists threatened yesterday to kidnap Imelda Marcos and her children for "crimes against the people".

Arabs review UN's Libya ban

Arab countries are considering joining African states in defying a travel ban imposed on Libya by the United Nations, the secretary-general of the Arab League said yesterday.

Kashmir blast

At least five Indian militants were killed when a landmine exploded near Sumbal in Kashmir, police said. A second mine was defused. — Reuters.

Step to sainthood

The Pope beatified three Austrians at an open-air mass in Vienna. They including a nun who was beheaded by the Nazis. — Reuters.

McBride 'framed'

South Africa's ruling African National Congress said it believed a senior foreign affairs official arrested in Mozambique on suspicion of gun-running had been framed. The ANC said it was unclear how Robert McBride had been set up. President Mandela has ruled out intervening in the McBride affair. — Reuters.

Togo protest

Hundreds of youths took to the streets of the Togo capital Lome in a noisy but peaceful protest against alleged irregularities in presidential elections in the tiny West African state. — Reuters.



Vaclav Havel: must try to bring a coalition together

Millions of people are excluded from everyday life because they have no jobs, no transport, bad schools... and identify with nothing.

Polly Toynbee

Comment, page 8

Iran's power as hardline

Mehran Tahrani

Mr. Khatami's ministers have been accused of being too soft on the West. The hardline faction in the Islamic Revolution Guard is seen as a major obstacle to Khatami's reform agenda.

The hardline faction in the Islamic Revolution Guard is seen as a major obstacle to Khatami's reform agenda. They are accused of being too soft on the West.

US 'drops' Saudi investigation

Sara Kettie Washington

A FEW days after the FBI announced it was dropping its investigation into the 1996 bombing of the Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia, the FBI announced it was dropping its investigation into the 1996 bombing of the Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia.

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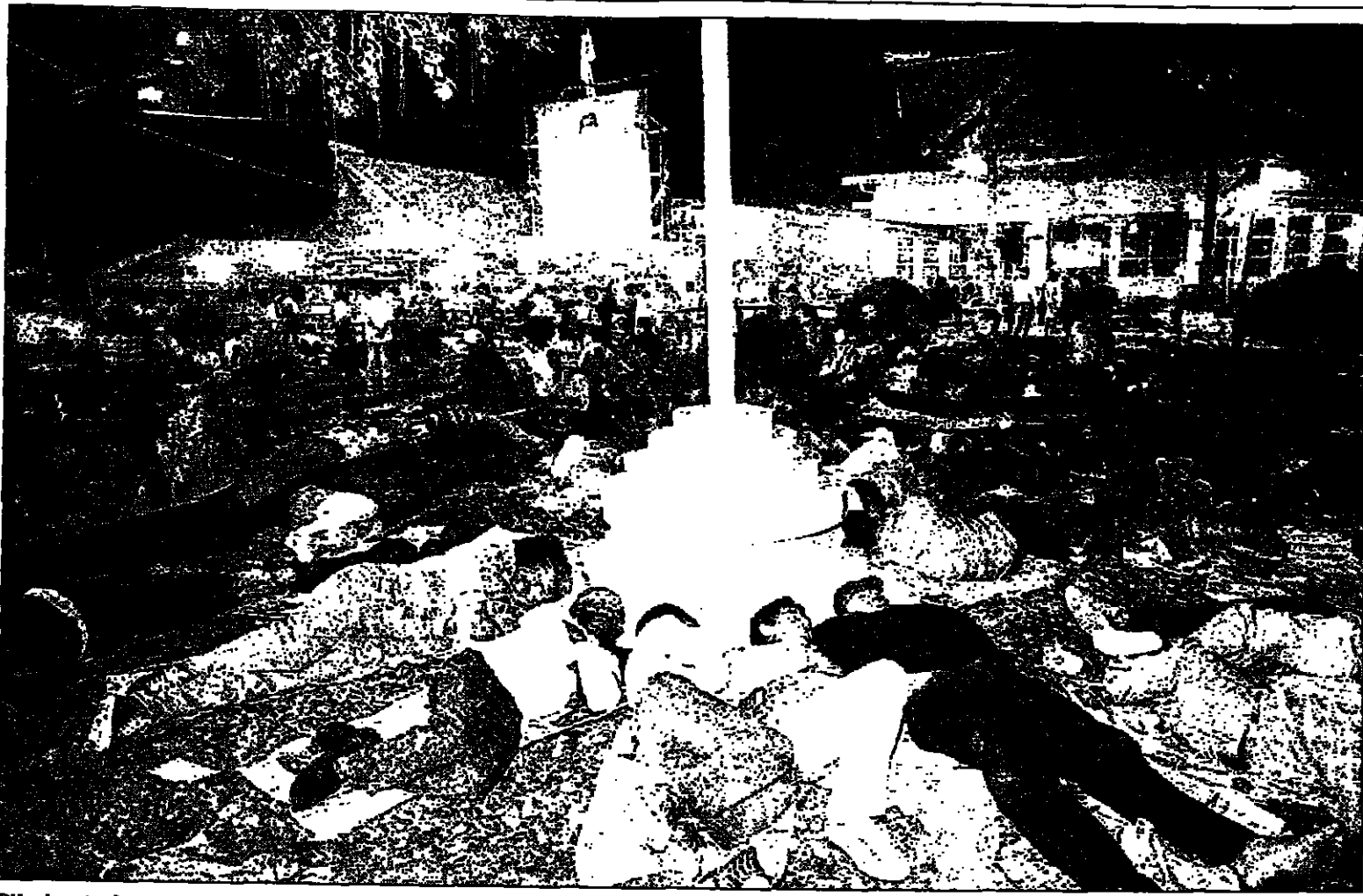
Mass tribute to late leader

Amey Chew in Blitar

THE family of Indonesia's founding president, Sukarno, have called on the 26th anniversary of his death for his name to be cleared. One of his daughters, Rachmawati Sukarnoputri, told the crowd gathered at his graveside in the East Java town of Blitar at the weekend that her father died a political prisoner and she would try to restore his good name.

In 1945 Sukarno declared Indonesia's independence from the Netherlands after 20 years of struggle. He was sidelined by President Suharto in 1966 after a failed communist coup to which he was linked. Sukarno died under house arrest in Jakarta in 1970.

Police estimated the crowd in Blitar at 50,000, more than twice the number who gathered for the anniversary last year. Sukarno's family said the spirit of reform in the wake of Mr Suharto's resignation last month helped boost the crowds. — Reuters



Pilgrims to the grave of Indonesia's founding president, Sukarno, sleep in the streets of Blitar on the anniversary of his death

PHOTOGRAPH BY J. P. LEO

Iran's power struggle heats up as hardliners force minister out

Jim Muir in Tehran

THE political struggle in Iran intensified sharply yesterday when the reformist president, Mohammad Khatami, lost a senior minister to an impeachment motion in the conservative-dominated parliament. But within hours, Mr Khatami hit back by appointing the deposed interior minister, Abdullah Nouri, as his vice-president for development and social affairs.

It was the closest that the mild-mannered, non-confrontational Mr Khatami has come to a direct collision with the hardliners since he took office last August and made it clear that he would not take such a blow lying down. The impeachment of Mr Nouri, which was carried in parliament by 187 votes to 117, was seen by moderates as amounting to a frontal attack on Mr Khatami's reformist policies.

The president said that while he supported and even welcomed parliament's right to scrutinise and impeach ministers, Mr Nouri had his full support and was implementing his policies.



Abdullah Nouri: reformist minister impeached by MPs

Mr Nouri was one of two key ministers in the Khatami cabinet. His job was to spearhead the president's plans to implement political liberalisation — referred to as "political development" — but the process has been slow. The other key minister, Ataollah Mohajerani, in charge of culture and Islamic guidance, is overseeing Mr Khatami's drive for social and cultural freedoms, the other pillar of the concept of a

civil society which was central to his phenomenal election victory in May last year. With the reformist mayor of Tehran, Gholamhossein Karbaschi, charged with corruption by the conservative-dominated judiciary, and Mr Nouri hit by the hardliners, moderates fear that Mr Mohajerani may be targeted next.

Mr Khatami told a cabinet meeting yesterday that he would have preferred Mr Nouri to continue in his post. But he added: "We must all comply with the constitution and the laws, so we accept it, and we can use Mr Nouri elsewhere."

In a letter to Mr Nouri appointing him vice-president, Mr Khatami praised his competence, efficiency and experience. "You have been a clear and effective deputy for a long time," he wrote. "As vice-president, Mr Nouri will not be required to appear before parliament for approval, as ministers must. But he will have an automatic seat in the cabinet, and will oversee the president's plans for Iran's future."

The conservative deputies had lambasted Mr Nouri for neglecting his duty to maintain public order in favour of

playing factional politics. He was accused of campaigning for the embattled Mr Karbaschi — which he did — and of promoting disorder by giving permits for demonstrations which were broken up by rioting thugs. The hardliners have a majority in parliament, which does not reflect the overwhelming desire for change that swept Mr Khatami to office. After the impeachment, some observers felt the move might backfire.

"What is their intention? To force Mr Khatami to resign? Or to obstruct him by keeping his administration permanently under attack and off balance? That kind of politics is only to make the right move more and more unpopular," Farideh Farhi, a political analyst, said.

Meanwhile, Tehran was braced last night for a possible, flooding of the streets with millions of people if Iran beat the United States in their World Cup match. The authorities were anxious that the celebration might turn into a political demonstration in support of the popular Mr Khatami.

Jim Muir is the BBC's Middle East Correspondent.

Bean: the ultimate boss, say Japanese

Alex Brummer in Tokyo

HAPLESS television character Mr Bean has claimed a place at the heart of Tokyo's establishment. Graduates of Japan's elite National Personnel Authority, which trains high-level civil servants, have voted Rowan Atkinson's creation (above) the boss they would most like to work for. A survey of 788 "career category" civil servants (those regarded as most likely to go on to top jobs in the government) put Mr Bean well ahead of his closest rivals — the managers of three successful Japanese baseball teams. The coach of the Japanese World Cup football squad was also among the favourites in the poll, taken before the Japanese suffered defeats in their first two games in France. The emergence of Mr Bean as a cult figure in Japan follows the broad-

cast here of one of his early television series ahead of the release last year of Bean: The Ultimate Disaster Movie — which played to packed cinemas. "He is the natural successor to Tora San [the veteran Japanese slapstick figure who died last year]," argued a businessman who markets licences for famous literary and cinematic images in Japan. "Tora San was a simple person who was always trying to help people and in the process made a fool of himself, or made the situation worse." In the broader context, the popularity of Mr Bean would appear to echo the deep disaffection with Japanese policymakers after the collapse of what people here call the "bubble" economy. The ministry of finance, which has searched an iron grip over the management of Japan Inc. is viewed with such contempt that even Mr Bean's clownish ways are seen as preferable.

Guerrillas intensify Ugandan terror raids

Anna Borzello in Kichwamba on the growing threat from rebels in the country's west

DAVID BUGIYE, aged 24, lay in his hospital bed and spoke through lips swollen with pus and blood. "We were on our way to prep when the rebels came," he said, in a dead voice. "We hid under our beds but they called us to come out. We refused and they smashed in the windows, poured in petrol and set our dormitories alight."

Mr Bugiye is one of nine students in hospital after an attack this month by rebels of the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) on the Kichwamba Technical Institute. He has 30 per cent burns but is lucky to have escaped with his life: at least 45 people died in the raid. More than 110 young men are still missing, believed abducted or killed.

The attack is the worst by the ADF, who have been trying since November 1996 to overthrow Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni. They say he is a "foreigner" and accuse him of planning to create an empire of like-minded leaders in the Great Lakes region. The rebels are a coalition of an Islamist sect, known as Tabliq, and fighters from a previously defunct Rwenzori-based group, the National Army for the Liberation of Uganda. They are supported by Rwandan ex-government militia and soldiers who were loyal to the late former Zairian president, Mobutu Sese Seko.

The rebels used to operate out of eastern Zaire, but when the forces of the current president, Laurent Kabila, seized power, renaming the country the Democratic Republic of Congo, the ADF moved to the Rwenzori mountains, which straddle the border with Uganda.

Mr Museveni proclaimed the rebel threat dead, but the ADF resurfaced last July in a major attack on a western town, and have since launched raids into the lowlands, displacing more than 100,000 people. The rebels have also established an ur-

ban terrorist wing, and this month launched a public relations drive — sending out their manifesto by courier from London, where their leaders live in exile. The army has blamed the rebels' resilience on the mountainous terrain and the continued support of the Sudanese government. Mr Museveni — who backed Mr Kabila's bid for power — had also counted on Congo's new government to secure the border region and cut off the rebels' arms supply, which he said came both from Mobutu's troops and by air-drop from Sudan.

But Mr Kabila has not made this his priority, and Ugandan rebels continue to operate freely, trading arms with Rwandan rebels further down the border. The situation came to a head last month when Congo lashed out at Uganda, accusing Mr Museveni of interfering in its internal affairs.

Despite these problems, western Ugandans — who voted overwhelmingly for Mr Museveni in the 1996 presidential elections — have given the government the benefit of the doubt. But the attack on Kichwamba has been a turning point. During the two-hour raid, the army troops guarding the institute fled, leaving the students in their lurch.

Mr Museveni, who knows he cannot afford to lose the support of a region rich in agriculture, minerals and tourist potential, has been quick to act. He has promised compensation to the survivors and disciplinary action against the soldiers. This week he made his true chief of staff, Brigadier James Kazini, the regional commander.

Despite the moves, many Ugandans are beginning to ask whether the army has the capacity to bring the fighting to an end. The ADF is one of three rebel groups fighting the government and there are increasing calls to resolve the conflict through negotiation.

US 'drops Saudi investigation'

Martha Kettle in Washington

AN FBI investigation into the 1996 terrorist bombing in Saudi Arabia that killed 19 United States citizens and wounded 500 other people is being quietly wound down after insuperable disagreements with the Saudis, normally Washington's strongest allies in the Middle East.

Although Clinton administration spokesmen are at pains to state that the investigation is continuing, the New York Times reported yesterday that the FBI's efforts to uncover the facts had run into the sand. It said the FBI had with-

drawn "dozens of investigators" who were sent to look into the lobby bombing in an apartment block in Dhahran. The inquiry has been downgraded to a single agent acting as a legal attaché and liaison with the Saudis.

The department of justice, which oversees the FBI, denied yesterday the books had been closed. The secretary of state, Madeleine Albright, told a television interviewer: "We have to have some conclusion to the investigation." But she warned "it may take a while".

More than 40 FBI agents were flown to Saudi Arabia to work on the case in the aftermath of the June 1996 bombing. The Pentagon said there was "complete co-operation" between the countries.

Within months, however, the two sides began to bicker. In January 1997 the US attorney general, Janet Reno,

Prisoner swap between Israel and Lebanon soon

David Sharrock in Jerusalem

THE largest exchange of prisoners and bodies between Israel and Lebanon in a decade is expected to take place on Wednesday after months of secret negotiations. Israel will receive the remains of Sergeant-Major Itamar Lavi, who was killed in a Hizbullah ambush on a commando unit as it infiltrated south Lebanon last September.

In return, Israel and its regional ally, the South Lebanese Army, will hand over about 60 Shi'ite prisoners from the Hizbullah and Amal organisations. The prisoners are being held in Israeli jails and at the Al-Khiam prison inside Israel's self-declared south Lebanon security zone. Among those expected to be released is Muhammad Mukadad, who was arrested in east Jerusalem after being wounded when a bomb he was preparing blew up in his face.

Israel does not intend to return two Shi'ite leaders, Mustafa Dirani and Sheikh Abdel Karim Obeid, whom it kidnapped from Lebanon in an attempt to gather information on the whereabouts of Ron Arad, an Israeli airman captured by Lebanese guerrillas in 1986.

Among the dozens of bodies which will be returned to Lebanon is that of Hadi Nasrallah, the son of the Hizbullah leader Hassan Nasrallah, who was killed in a clash with Israeli troops last year.

A source involved in the negotiations said yesterday: "We are on standby to carry out the transfer, which we expect to take place on Wednesday following the return of Lebanese President Rafik Hariri from Washington." The final evidence that the transfer is to begin will be the disinterment of the bodies of Lebanese soldiers which have been buried in an unmarked cemetery just south of the Golan Heights.

Luggage levy at Heathrow weighs on Winnie Mandela

David Berezford in Johannesburg

IT MAY claim to be the world's favourite airline but it is not Winnie Mandela's. She is trying to whip up a diplomatic storm after British Airways levied an excess baggage charge against her. President Nelson Mandela's ex-wife has complained to the British high commissioner in South Africa, Mervyn Frost, after she was charged £1,000 last week at Heathrow before a flight home.

In a letter, Mrs Mandela said BA staff were "rude and contemptuous" towards her. She said she had been forced

to borrow money from other passengers to pay the charge. "Now I do not care what anyone thinks of me, but if one is travelling on a diplomatic passport, not to mention as a first-class passenger, you expect a specific treatment as this status befits," she raved. South Africa's former first lady, who is presumed to have been carrying well in excess of 220lb of luggage, may find her complaint backfires. Opposition leaders say they will ask questions in parliament about Mrs Mandela's use of a diplomatic passport while on private business. BA in London said they were urgently investigating the matter.

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Comment

e-mail

Helena Smith
@Albania

HE IS king of the roads. And in high Albania you quickly know it. Kalashnikov cocked, swagger in his hips, beer on his breath, the Albanian bandit is merciless. "Money or ya life," he will scream at the relief workers and camera crews who come his way. And, with religious predictability, they delve into their pockets.

But now the highwaymen, drunk on lawlessness and mouths of gun rule, have started to turn on their own. The arrival of thousands of "wealthy" ethnic Albanians from Kosovo has enriched their hunting ground. After foreigners, refugees make perfect prey.

Crossing the mountains last week, I witnessed an assault on a family of Kosovans who had just fled the fighting. Their mini-bus stood grunted and stripped. Hands in the air, trembling with fear, the group of men, women and children stood in a state of near-nakedness next to it. "Dirty boys, dirty boys," shrieked my driver, reversing our battered Mercedes at high speed. "Dirty boys, dirty boys," shrieked Sokol, the interpreter, before opening his door to vomit.

Kosovar Albanians are finding their motherland a savage place. Four decades of ruthless Stalinist rule has placed their bloodbrothers in a different world from the one that they know. The refugees have been crossing the border into the poorest part of Europe's poorest country, weary and wide-eyed. Although many have relatives in the highlands, few have visited them and few now want to stay.

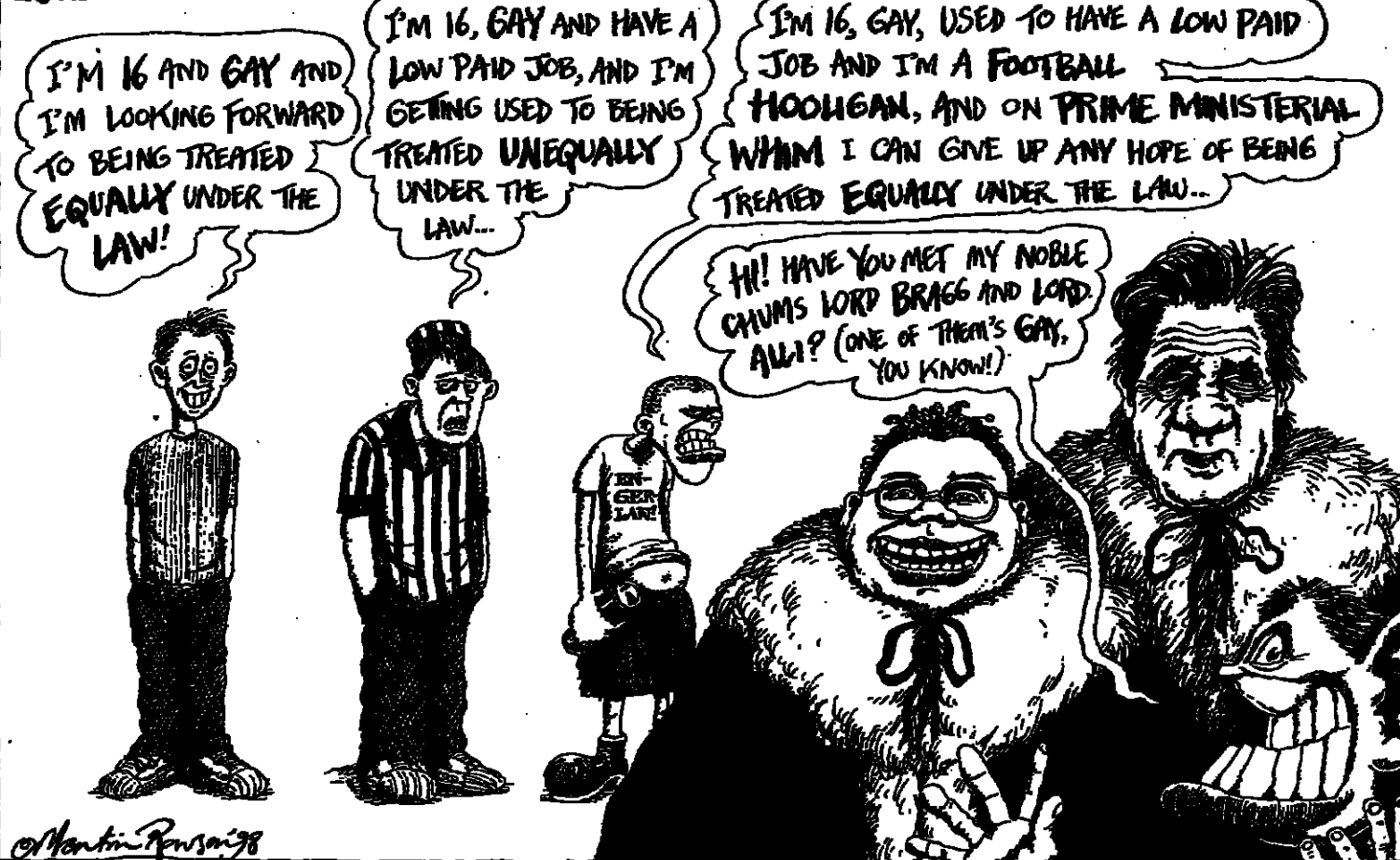
As they take in the wretched wasteland that is the former People's Socialist Republic—the filth, the children playing around open sewers—more and more have begun to ask if this is the Greater Albania of their dreams. "We only eat weeds in boiled water here," says Shkurte, a raven-haired teenager whose family hid in the forest for weeks before crossing the rocky frontier. "There is not a minute in a day when we don't want to go back to Kosovo."

The highlanders would love to see their rocky mountains united with the fertile plains of Kosovo below. "That way lies our future," said one freedom fighter, recalling 1913, when the modern state of Albania was recognised at the London Peace Conference. "We are one people divided by an invisible wall of misery constructed by the Great Powers."

But Albania itself is partitioned, with southerners loathing their hot-headed, gun-smuggling compatriots in the north. For them, Kosovo is a distant problem and one they would rather forget. "When communism fell it took us two weeks to realise that Kosovars were not our people," says Firok Capi, who heads the country's official news agency. "Drugs, prostitution, deceit and dirty tactics all came down from Kosovo."

Kosovo may well ignite into all-out war. But whatever happens in this beleaguered corner of the highland land, the real victims will be the thousands of refugees who are fast discovering they have no place to call a home.

EGALITÉ...



How to tell if Tony Blair is putting our money where his mouth is

Polly
Toynbee



HOW serious is the Government about redistribution, poverty and social exclusion? There is every sign that they are very serious indeed. It is where they spend most of their money, energy and enthusiasm. Last week's minimum wage is another proof of their intent — however stupidly bungled its announcement. (Creating a row instead of a celebration, the Treasury saved just one-fifth of 1 per cent of the national wage bill.) But if Tony Blair means it when he asks to be judged on his success in achieving a fairer society, how will we know how well he has done?

Today the centre-left think tank the Institute for Public Policy Research publishes an important report, *An Inclusive Society — Strategies for Tackling Poverty*. It calls for an annual official poverty and social exclusion report that would pull together all the data right across all departments, programmes and measures the real impact, year on year. There are deep academic and political disputes about how to measure poverty. If it's just a percentage living below average income, that's a shifting target. Can you create an agreed national poverty line? The advantage of a comprehensive report of this kind would be to include every kind of measure and indicator to argue over and compare.

The Office of National Statistics would produce the equivalent of the Bank of England's annual Inflation Report, with predictions for the coming year. Currently income statistics always arrive years out of date, capturing a portrait of a long-gone and now irrelevant part of the economic cycle. Figures are so dilatory that we won't

know the real impact of the Working Families Tax Credit until after the next election. Other major poverty reports arrive like haphazard thunderbolts from Rowntree or the churches, a shocking one-week story, easily sidestepped by governments. But there would be no escaping an annual audit.

The reason why we need these figures pulled together is that good intentions don't always lead directly to the intended results. Take the minimum wage as an example. There is no doubt that it's an important act of social justice. Two million people will be better off, most of them part-time women, the rest mainly the young. On average they will gain a remarkable 32 per cent increase in their pay. The Low Pay Commission's report last week is littered with stories of appalling exploitation — the 19-year-old earning £1.70 an hour as a storekeeper, home workers earning 2.9 pence per umbrella frame (37 pence per hour) and security guards earning £1.25 an hour, while paying for their own uniforms. The wonder is the sheer strength of the work ethic, that's a shifting target. Can you create an agreed national poverty line? The advantage of a comprehensive report of this kind would be to include every kind of measure and indicator to argue over and compare.

Now you might hope that the minimum wage will make an important difference to the redistribution of wealth, a step towards a fairer society. But a report from the Institute of Fiscal Studies casts a sobering light on its likely redistributive effects. Dividing the nation's households into 10 income groups, the IFS shows that the two poorest groups gain very little — only 3.5 per cent at the bottom gain at all. The groups with the highest number of

gainers are the middle-income households. Why? Because the very poorest families are those where no one works, so no one will gain. A high proportion of very low earners are not the main earners in their families, as most of the low-paid young still live at home, and most low-paid women live with working partners. It shows how unexpectedly difficult it can be to make a real impact on the poor.

The story of the minimum wage is an example of how the Government might hit all kinds of separate targets and yet still make little overall impact on the numbers of poor/excluded households. Labour has a good array of programmes designed to root out poverty and social exclusion, of which the minimum wage is just one. And yet it has no way to audit their total impact on poor people's lives. Simple income figures are not enough because poverty and social exclusion are not necessarily the same, though closely linked.

MILLIONS of people are excluded from mainstream life because they have no jobs, no transport, bad schools and health, live in ghettos of hopelessness, belong to no community and identify with nothing. While poverty is one key explanation for their plight, it isn't everything; their benightedness, their lack of initiative, their unwillingness to take on the responsibility for their own quality of life. On the other hand, others surviving on a pittance do manage to live thriving, productive lives within their communities, poor but not excluded.

So all the other social exclusion indicators would need to be included in the annual

poverty audit. Each on their own might not tell us what we really need to know, but cumulatively, they would offer powerful evidence. Health indicators might improve in some areas, schools might do better in others. More people might get new good training — but are they the right people, does the training reach people in deprived areas, and does it make them richer in the end? Some incomes may rise — and yet we still want to know if there was a real improvement in the life chances of deprived children. Some government targets might prove to be damaging: cutting waiting lists in the NHS may end up worsening the overall health of the poor.

The Government may look favourably on the IPPR recommendation, for the recent Welfare Reform Green Paper suggests all kinds of success measurements. The Prime Minister has said he thinks measurement matters. But this would be an expensive commitment. Consider the fate of the Low Pay Commission, which has been told to monitor the effect of the minimum wage on the jobs market — a very difficult task, especially now unemployment is starting to rise anyway. Their research budget for next year? A pathetic £80,000.

An annual poverty and social exclusion audit would be a brave and politically dangerous task, especially now unemployment is starting to rise anyway. Their research budget for next year? A pathetic £80,000. An annual poverty and social exclusion audit would be a brave and politically dangerous task, especially now unemployment is starting to rise anyway. Their research budget for next year? A pathetic £80,000.

Political football

Peter
Preston



FOOTBALL and crude nationalism aren't distant cousins. They are brothers under the same T-shirt. Witness the night, a couple of months ago, when Barcelona won the Spanish League, a night, in one chilling respect, to put Marseille in the shade. The town hall balcony was heavy with money bags. The square below beamed with chanting Catalans. And, in solemn procession, the players and the coaches were required to make the same balefully short speech. "Long live Barca. Long live Catalunya."

Brazilians did it. Dutchmen did it. Even Bobby Robson, looking sheepish, did it. Barcelona's army of millionaire mercenaries were the cutting edge of burgeoning nationalism. Their triumph — over the night of Madrid — was much more than a game. The rally (with the leader of Catalonia's ruling nationalists conducting the crowd) felt viscerally political.

Yet wind the clock forward to the evening last week when Spain (stuffed with Barca players) subsided in that same draw with Paraguay which may have bundled them out of the World Cup at the opening hurdle. No crowds, no riots, only mumbling in the tapas bars of the Barrio Gótico. Where had all the nationalism gone? It is a question with more relevance to England's hoodlark antics than we care to acknowledge.

In Barcelona terms, the league's the thing: liberation by other means. The absolute purpose is to rout the heavyweights from Madrid, come what may. And vice versa. Thus the coach of Real Madrid is out of a job because, though he won the Spanish First Division, he didn't win the Spanish Cup. He didn't win the Spanish Cup, he didn't win the Spanish Cup, he didn't win the Spanish Cup.

Manic standards for success, with manic salaries and manic retribution in failure. Alex Ferguson would be back minding haggis this morning if he had to survive by them. But that's the point: the nationalistic change goes to, here is the change and here the blast. Football dominates and sublimates the economic and cultural tensions through constant competition at the Nou Camp.

None of this is accidental. It is much about nationalism, politics as Rangers and Celtic were about religion. Indeed, the supporter divide within Barcelona itself between the fans of Barca (native Catalans) and Espanyol (incomers from the wider Spain) has historically reflected the strains inside the community with uncanny precision. Thus soccer is a serious world of deadly serious

why don't we make the connection? Long live Barcelona. Long live the valve on the pressure cooker.

IT'S VERY odd, feeling sorry for Jeffrey Archer. But oddly inescapable. A month ago he was the Tory front runner as London's mayor: bonny from freedom, there whenever a chat show had five minutes to fill. Now he and his candidacy are sunk. A letter from a party grandee, a little newspaper investigation, an old story about Anglia share dealing developing new holes — and that's that: the author of the *Eleventh Commandment* ("thou shalt not be caught") is a mayoral memory. In theory, baiting journalists everywhere ought to feel triumphant. The broad sword of truth swings again. Yet this swipe was just too pat, too easy. It took one short note to Central Office from Sir Timothy Kitson to set the grinder going. Shouldn't all this left-over stuff about Jeffrey be properly looked into before the campaign got under way?

Kitson, a modest blast from a modest past, is no name to conjure with. Yet the BBC, amazingly enough, led its morning news bulletin on his small suggestion. The Tories' new probity committee agreed to review the case before you could say gin and tonic. Mr William Hague was reported "to be standing aside from the controversy". The Archer charabanc rattled downhill into the first available ditch.

IF THIS had been one of Jeffrey's thrillers, you'd have guessed instantly that somebody had cut the brake cable. But this is politics. Surely those nice Conservatives, who've always been happy to drink his Lordship's champagne and let him slog their fundraising circuits, couldn't be so beastly?

Maybe Tim Kitson will write to Tony Blair next, asking for an inquiry into Ken Living-



Soccer is a serious world: when the balance alters the politics is shifting

stone's stewardship of the GLC. The big boys certainly know who they don't want to be mayor. Maybe, when we find out who they do want, we can all start standing letters.

IT IS Sir David English's funeral service today — and a natural cap on argument about his record at the Mail. You will remember that his obituarists (one included) talked about a fine professional editor and a record of success. You will also have noted a variety of correspondents and columnists (in these pages, the Observer, and further afield) who wanted slag heaps, Leyland fiascos, the curse of Thatcherism and the decline of British public life read into the record. This of the man Tony Blair was about to make Lord English: which did not seem to ease the pain.

Bitter business as usual? Not for me, because I knew at first hand the effort Sir David put into helping Commons weathers journalists in distress and causes where freedom matters. But I was struck — as Martin Linton MP led the charge — by the curious fact that those who seem to loath the Daily Mail are also those who champion proportionate representation most passionately.

PR is has been a good Guardian cause over decades. Because it's fairer. Because it helps every vote to count for something. Because it prompts rational debate and makes politicians work together rather than snarl at each other. I rather think that David English was coming to that conclusion too. It is somewhat bizarre when its arch apostles are the ones who couldn't forgive or forget.

Endpiece: Poet's Corner

Roy
Hattersley



IT IS Saturday morning in the Peak Park and the sun is beginning to clear the Dewent Valley. Better, tired from his early morning walk, lies across my feet under the kitchen table while I eat the muffins that I bought from the village shop on the way home. Even if it rains later in the day, the paths along the escarpments which we call "edges" will stay hard and dry and anyone who walks up to see half of Derbyshire's green

and pleasant land stretching out towards the other clouded hills. And I, in my madness, am catching the 12.37 from Chesterfield to London.

Lunacy of so high an order demands an explanation — especially since it is a recurrent disorder that impels me south with manic regularity. The symptoms never vary. First I receive an invitation to an event of occasion which is more than a year away. Distance always lends enchantment. Ask me to speak at the Little Puddington Labour Party next Monday and I would certainly say no. Invite me for December 1999, and I will accept at once. As the date gradually approaches, I grow more and more dissatisfied with my original decision. But, rather to my surprise, today I feel contented in my madness.

At six o'clock I am to lay a wreath on George Eliot's Memorial Stone in Westminster Abbey, and I take a strange pleasure in being associated, no matter how vicariously, with the greatest novelist in

the English language. I am by no means sure that she would approve of the event. Asked about God, Immortality and Duty — strange topics of conversation to be raised during an afternoon's stroll — "she pronounced with terrible earnestness how inconceivable the first, how unbelievable the second and how peevish the third". But there she is in black polished marble on the floor of Westminster Abbey — the junk yard of the nation's vanities.

SHE keeps appropriate company, in a row of four, disparate pagans. George Eliot would not have enjoyed a night out with Dylan Thomas and Lord Byron and WH Auden — who occupy the flanks of the forward line — had little socially in common. But, in their different times and ways, they all defied respectable convention. George Eliot, having established her personal morality, lived without the slightest deviation from its precepts. If

Westminster Abbey is a temple of virtue, as distinct from established Christianity, there is no one who has a greater right to be remembered in Poet's Corner.

Over her left shoulder, there is a memorial to Henry James. A critic, whose name I no longer recall, said that his work could be divided into three periods — James I, James II and the Old Prentender. In 1878, he visited George Eliot in Surrey and, at the end of an unsatisfactory afternoon, was bidding her partner, George Henry Lewes, goodbye when he was asked a favour. Would he dispose of an unwanted book that a neighbour had brought round earlier in the week? It was *The American*, a novel from the literary reign of James I. George Eliot had not connected the author with her visitor. She simply did not like that sort of fiction and saw no reason to pretend otherwise.

I wonder what she would have thought about DH Lawrence, who is next but one to

Henry James on her left. I was brought up to believe that Lawrence was another moralist who obeyed the call of conscience from within him rather than listened to the echoes of convention from the cruel world in which he lived. But it is hard to believe that the whining, whimpering Lawrence would have been a soulmate of the didactic and indomitable George Eliot — even though they both fell in love too easily. Gerard Manley Hopkins, immediately behind her on the Abbey floor, would have been bewildered by them both — despite approving of George Eliot spending her twenties translating a *Life of Jesus* from the German.

IT IS quite the wrong question to ask on a day when I take part in a wreath-laying ceremony, but I wonder if authors of genius should be commemorated by marble tablets laid — like Mary McCarthy's young Harvard ladies — to end in Westminster Abbey. From time to time, there are arguments about

new inclusions as if a piece of stone could enhance the glory of genius. The best way to pay proper tribute to George Eliot is by reading her novels — in my case Daniel Deronda, in which I have taken several running jumps without ever landing on the final page.

I am in favour of the Fellowship and Societies that organise these events. They encourage reading their heroes' work and sponsor little biographical projects which, added together, produce real scholarship. But that is very different from the solemnity of a laurel wreath and an encomium. Had George Eliot died last year, I would not have even considered attending her memorial service. I loathe conspicuous grief and ostentatious mourning. Those who we love and admire should be remembered in private. But today I leave Derbyshire without a regret. I suppose that the little Abbey ceremony is as near to George Eliot as I am ever going to get. I propose to make the most of it.

صلى الله عليه وسلم

The Guardian
Consent to age change
equality is basic right
alters to the Editor
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Consent to age change Gay equality is basic right

ANGLICAN bishops today will issue a warning of the dangers of lowering the age of consent for homosexuals to 16. Unlike four years ago, when the issue was last before the Commons, the bishops intend to be more assertive. In 1994, when the age of consent for homosexuals was lowered from 21 to 18, there was no formal view from the Church. Today they will be unequivocal: a vote in favour in the Commons will send the "wrong message" to young people. The bishops believe the state, as well as the Church, has a duty to protect young people from harm and exploitation. Legislation, they believe, should play its part in providing young people with "a vision of what is good". The law relating to sexual relations "should be rooted in sound moral values".

The bishops are not alone. Public opinion polls consistently show a majority opposed to lowering the age of consent. NOP last year found 53 per cent against compared with 35 per cent in favour. Moreover, the gay community has always exaggerated the

number of gay people in Britain. The most authoritative study, the National Survey of Sexual Attitudes and Lifestyles, suggested only six out of 100 men have had any "homosexual experience" and only 3.6 out of 100 a "homosexual partner". It was lower for women.

Will any of these facts change the vote tonight? Almost certainly not. A reform which almost passed under the last Conservative government, seems certain to sweep through today. Leaders of all three main political parties will support the move. And rightly so. The danger which the bishops address — the need to protect young people — was examined in detail by the Royal College of Psychiatrists in 1976. After an exhaustive look at whether there should be a common age of consent for both homosexuals and heterosexuals, the college concluded that there should: "Boys are no more in need of protection from homosexuals than girls from heterosexuals." The reason was set out a decade earlier by the 1967 Wolfenden Report: "Our medical witnesses were unanimously of a view that the main sexual pattern is laid down in the early years of life and the majority of them held that it was usually fixed in main outline by the age of 16, while many held that it was fixed much earlier."

Bishops and legislators have quite separate roles. Indeed, even the bishops concede in their statement that "actions may be legal without being morally right...". Precisely. Being a bishop means being judgmental. Legislators should not follow suit. They have more rational duties which include looking at the consequences of their predecessors' refusal to follow Wolfenden's logic: three decades of fear, shame and damage generated by an unequal law. Agencies which have wanted to provide help to 16-year-old gay people have been inhibited for 30 extra years. Many young people, even in the face of HIV and Aids, have shrunk from seeking advice because of the illegality of their activity. Reform is long overdue. Unequal consent laws have almost disappeared from Europe. It is time the UK followed suit. Equal treatment under the law is a fundamental right.

Term of abuse

Facts behind fictional hooligans

WHAT is the real cause of hooliganism? The Times has blamed it on the hot weather compounded by the effects of alcohol. The Daily Mail, the News of the World

and even the Lancet have called for the outrages to be met with floggings. The sole dissenting voice has been the crime correspondent of the South London Chronicle, who believes the whole thing has been blown out of proportion by the other papers to fill their columns during the Silly Season.

We are, as it happens, talking about the summer of 1898, when Britain was going through one of its regular breast-beating rituals about outbreaks of mindless violence. The only difference compared with previous occasions was that the word "hooligan" crept into the newspapers for the first time to describe the activity. Yes, whisper it quietly, the World Cup is coinciding, almost to the day, with the centenary of hooliganism. There are not as far as we know, any plans to celebrate it unless the outbreaks in Marseille were some sort of psychosomatic response to the events of a hundred years ago.

Since then, sadly, hooliganism — the word that is — has become one of the country's most enduring exports. It has entered most of the main languages of the world and if there are any that have missed out, the omission may well be rectified by the end of the tournament. All of which is a monstrous libel on Mr Patrick Hooligan, a

chucker-out from "Irish Court" in the Elephant and Castle — and one of the supposed origins of the phrase.

According to contemporary sources he was famed for his lawless daring and is reported to have died in prison after killing a policeman. But Geoffrey Pearson, author of Hooligan, says that the real origins of the word are wreathed in mists; it sprang from obscurity to become a term of general notoriety when first discovered by the press in 1898. It was, he thinks, typically ingenious of late Victorian England to disown the British hooligan by giving him an Irish name.

Another theory suggests the original Hooligans were a spirited Irish family whose proceedings enlivened the drab monotony of life in Southwark 14 years earlier. Another that it derives from Larry Hoolagan, a drunken and rascally Irish servant in T G Rodwell's farce, More Blunders Than One (1824). Whether he was so called because he was a hooligan or whether the word itself emanates from him we may never know. It would be comforting to speculate that something that derived from fiction may one day return to its origins. But getting that message over in Marseille or Toulouse is easier said than done.

Letters to the Editor

Fat ladies and comrade lords

BEFORE the Royal Opera House decides to close down (Call to privatise Royal Opera, June 20) perhaps it should consider modifying its supposed artistic remit to take financial considerations into account. It is really necessary to mount productions of Sir Gawain, Patti, Paul Bunyan, and the complete operas of Verdi (including the duds)? Is it essential to mount seven or eight new productions each season? Could they possibly dispense with the services of the most expensive singers in the world? The ROH should try cutting its cloth.

T G Scott, Bideford, Devon.

NOTE with interest that the leader of the political wing of the Labour movement in Haringey, council boss Toby Harris, has been embroiled as a working peer (The Upper House's working class, June 20). On the other hand, I, as the head of the industrial wing of the movement, remain a humble plebeian. Nothing could better demonstrate the priorities of New Labour. But while Toby may be happy to be called Lord, I am happy to continue with the much more useful title of Comrade President.

THE new "working" peers will each receive £24,500 daily subsistence allowance. A single unemployed person will receive £20.35 weekly subsistence allowance. Why is subsistence allowance more expensive for their "workships"? Roy Hollister, Dartford.

DO I detect, in the exquisite subtlety of giving life peers to Norman Lamont and Tim Bontly, a raised eyebrow, poised over the last nail in the coffin of the House of Lords? Patrick Toohy, Hastings, E Sussex.

HAVE always wondered why the photographs of the Guardian's columnists show nothing above the eyebrows. Now the mystery has been solved by the picture of Lord Engel of Hereford (And one for me, June 20): that's where the coronet goes. Malcolm Kinnaird, Southall, Middx.

Audit on medical practice

WHILST the GMC has found the Bristol doctors guilty of misconduct (Doctors pay the price, June 19) they did not act alone. No surgeon operates and cares for patients before, during and after an operation without the intensive support and professional skills of a range of health professionals. Clinical audit aims to show which practices work best for the patient, whether those practices are the remit of nurse, doctor, physiotherapist or anaesthetist. No single profession, including managers, comes out with any merit.

Dobson's inquiry should be complemented by a similar inquiry by my professional body for nurses, the UKCC. Nurses are making increasing claims to autonomy and to be in the vanguard of clinical effectiveness. Why did they not blow the whistle? Christopher Maggs, Professor of Nursing, Staffordshire University.

WE must not lose sight of the major issue in medicine: there is no culture of questioning standards or of learning from mistakes. It is the design of the profession that is wrong. The career structure for hospital doctors is an "all-or-nothing" model: you are either a consultant or a "junior" doctor (who may have been qualified for as long as 15 years). "Juniors" are discouraged from challenging existing standards and are

wholly dependent on references from their consultants for career advancement. A doctor concerned about a colleague's performance needs to be prepared to sacrifice his livelihood if contemplating whistleblowing. If there is not a sea change in the culture of medicine, there is nothing to stop another Bristol disaster. Dr Jeremy Steele, London.

I HAVE seen no mention of what I believe to have been a significant contributory factor — the moving of consultant contracts to hospital level as part of the setting up of trusts. It was apparent that a situation where clinicians and members of the employing authority worked together on a daily basis in a relatively closed community could present problems. The natural tendency of an autonomous organisation in a competitive system is to close ranks when faced with possible adverse publicity. A return to the system where our contracts were held at a higher level, such as the region, would be a simple and inexpensive measure. Peter Fisher, President, National Health Service Consultants' Association, Oxford.

THE only reason any form of disciplinary action could be taken against John Roylance, the former chief executive of UBHT, is because he is a doctor, and thus cov-

ered by internal medical disciplinary procedures. If his background was purely managerial, there are no professional codes of conduct, professional bodies, nor internal disciplinary bodies covering such health service managers and he would have escaped any form of punishment. David Dallard, Bristol.

FRANK Dobson has lost all credibility due to his in-temperate outburst over the GMC's ruling re the three Bristol surgeons (Dobson in row over baby deaths, June 20). A responsible official constituted body has given judgment after eight months of consideration. The matter is in fact sub judice in that any or all of the surgeons may appeal to the judicial committee of the Privy Council. Dr Kenneth Lockey, Billingham, Cleveland.

IT WAS medical audit that proved, albeit belatedly, that the surgeons' results in paediatric surgery were so poor. If Frank Dobson wants to damn Mr Dhasmana's audit cardiac surgery then he must produce audited results, which I'm sure are readily available, to show that his audit surgery outcome results are significantly below the national average. If they are not, then the Secretary of State should apologise. Dr Peter Talbot, Lisburn.

Is that Morris from Surrey dancing?

I WAS struck by Jonathan Freedland's remarks (Comment, June 20) about the pride taken in their national teams by Jamaicans, Brazilians and Scots — "these soccer tribes, who display their passion in dance and song, not fists and bottles". Perhaps that is the answer: having no songs, no dances, no national instruments, we have to take out our frustrations with fists and bottles. Solution: forcible enrolment of soccer hooligans in morris dancing teams. Mavis Francis, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

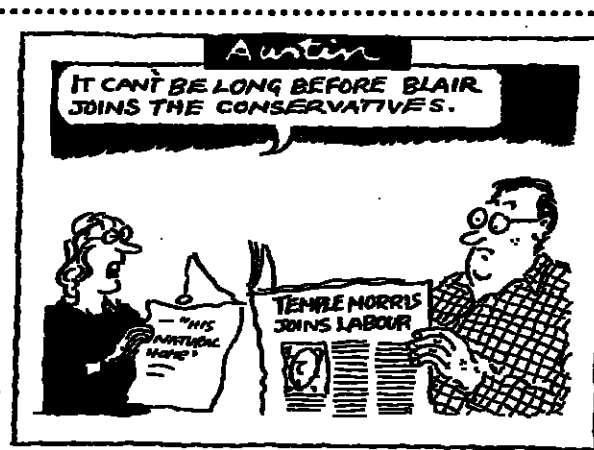
JONATHAN Freedland asked "Who are these people?" (G2, June 18), in ref-

erence to Middle England. Surely his answer came a few days earlier in Marseille. According to a report in your paper the vast majority of those destroying the French city voted Labour. Pete Brown, Harlow, Essex.

THE football needs brightening up. The World Cup teams running around on the telly are all beginning to look the same. The answer is obvious. Make them play in national costumes. The Scots would have a big advantage: they could play in their kilts and sporrans. The French could play in striped T-shirts with onion necklaces;

the Spanish could wear their bull-fighting gear and the Italians their togas (or dressed as waiters). The Germans and Austrians would be in lederhosen and the Japanese in kimonos. Americans don't look right in shorts; let them wear knickerbockers and baseball caps. Scandinavians can play in full laplander gear and Chile in llama wool jumpers. The Dutch would be formidable in their cloaks and the English in morris dancing costume would have no chance of tackling from behind — those bells would announce the arrival long before the tackle. David Beaking, London.

Please include a full postal address. We may edit letters.



Barrister for the defence

OVER the last few weeks, you have given prominent coverage to fees claimed by four QCs, of whom I was one, in criminal cases argued in the Lords, under such sensational headlines as "On trial: a system that makes QCs rich". You even published a letter accusing me of "opportunistic acquisitiveness" meriting arrest for "the crime of high court robbery". The suggestion appears to be that I have behaved improperly, even criminally, when I submitted to the taxing officer a fee of £24,000 which was then assessed at £21,600.

It is therefore regrettable that you did not point out that the Law Lords' inquiry clearly stated that there was no suggestion of any impropriety or bad faith by any of the barristers concerned.

The real purpose of the hearing was a request for guidance by the Clerk to Parliament as to how barristers' fees in future Lords criminal cases should be assessed, and if the concept of "fair and reasonable remuneration for work reasonably done" as applied in the lower courts should be the correct approach. The Law Lords have

been asked to provide some yard stick to help barristers and the assessing officer measure the elusive and subjective notion of what is "fair and reasonable", so that disparities between claims and assessments can be narrowed. The case in which I was involved was that of Philip English — a miscarriage of justice in which a 16-year-old boy was wrongly convicted of making state education work. Decent training, adequate resources and intelligent leadership are infinitely more relevant to the problem. Phil Turner, Sowerby, North Yorkshire.

CHRIS Woodhead is well and truly displeased he has been "named and shamed" in Decca Aitkenhead's excellent article on Ofsted (Comment, June 20).

I hope these facts will be reflected when you next turn your attention to "fat cat" lawyers who are said to exploit the legal system over a year ago and we still await payment.

Bulldog breed

JIM McGinley of Brighton suggested (Letters, June 17) that Joseph Conrad based his novel Heart of Darkness on Roger Casement's "nightmarish experience in Africa". This is wholly incorrect. The novel arose out of Conrad's own nightmarish experience in the Congo region. He did meet Casement and

thought him "very sympathetic", as well as admiring his song of the bush, as he trekked through the bush alone, bare one porter and two bullocks, returning a few months later "quietly serene as though he had been for a stroll through the park". All this information is available in Jocelyn Baines's excellent biography. Kevin Power, London.

No awards for Ofsted's theatrical performances

CHRIS Woodhead promises to send a point-by-point refutation to anybody who contacts him at Ofsted, but ducks every question in his article (Twaddle to you, June 19). Of course parents have the right to know what is happening in their children's schools, but that is not dependent upon the existence of Ofsted. Nor is improvement in educational standards dependent upon the time-consuming ritual of an Ofsted inspection. Such inspections are theatrical performances before which the life of the school is disrupted for months.

There are bad teachers, but many of them are good teachers before the sheer grind of coping with social deprivation and inadequate resources broke them. I suspect the reason why Woodhead counterattacks with such vehemence is that he realises the intellectual fragility of his position. Ofsted is postulated on the notion that teachers can be coerced into making state education work. Decent training, adequate resources and intelligent leadership are infinitely more relevant to the problem. Phil Turner, Sowerby, North Yorkshire.

CHRIS Woodhead is well and truly displeased he has been "named and shamed" in Decca Aitkenhead's excellent article on Ofsted (Comment, June 20).

June 12, Woodhead describes her article as "twaddle", a sure indication she has hit the nail on the head. Brian Hepworth, Broseley, Shropshire.

LORD Putnam should abandon his wretched scheme for a teaching awards ceremony (Awards plan for teachers, June 19). Teachers know that this is just a wheeze to creep round existing teachers and boost the image of teaching now that most new graduates are voting with their feet and giving teaching a wide berth. Having paid their way through three or four years of university, the prospect of working in crumbling buildings and taking home less money than a train driver simply does not appeal. D G Mayes, Rugby.

HOW will honouring one or two teachers somehow restore the battered morale of teachers? Surely the answer lies in less glamorous initiatives such as training in team building, as opposed to individual excellence; an attractive career structure for classroom teachers; the spread of excellent practice based on educational research; and teachers speaking as one voice through a single professional association. Margaret Raw, Duffield, Derby.

It's a lottery

David McKie

IF WE DID as Hilary Moriarty suggests, children now in the throes of A- and O-level examinations would have their marked papers returned to them. As she argued in Education Guardian last week — from the standpoint of an examiner as well as that of a teacher — this would help them to understand where they had pleased the examiners and where they had disappointed

them. It would also give better grounds for appeal than pure guesswork. I wonder if Hilary Moriarty is familiar with F Y Edgeworth? A nephew of the more famous Maria, who wrote Castle Rackrent, Francis Yedro Edgeworth (1845-1898) was an Irish economist, mathematician and statistician who for 30 years was professor of political economy at Oxford. Edgeworth knew what Moriarty knows, and what everyone who thinks seriously on such matters must have long ago concluded as well: that where theory requires that exam results must be decided by merit alone, practice ensures that they aren't. That row with one's spouse over breakfast, that moment of road rage while taking the children to school, that second glass of wine over supper, can in practice mean make or break for some borderline candidate.

Where Edgeworth went further than most was by putting that into a formula. Where θ , he taught, is the normal probability, p is the probability error in the marks, and q is the number of marks by which the candidate falls short of the dividing line between classifications, the probability that an individual candidate would be given the "wrong" degree could be expressed like this:

$$P = \frac{1}{2} \{ 1 - \theta \left(\frac{p}{0.477q} \right) \}$$

This formula was deployed last year in a lecture to the Royal Statistical Society by Connal Boyle of the University of Central England, Birmingham. Edgeworth believed that borderline cases in examinations should be settled by lottery. Boyle was exploring the possible use of random selection in making appointments — a case since developed by Martin Wainwright, North-

ern Editor of the Guardian, in a pamphlet which recommends that some members of quangos should be chosen, like jurors, by random selection.

WHAT interests me is the possibility of using an Edgeworth formula to remind ourselves that apparently rational outcomes are often deeply dependent on chance. There's recently been an attack on Ofsted, for instance, after one of its teams commended a board of governors which another disparaged. What we need is an Edgeworth formula to give us some indication of how likely it is that an Ofsted assessment is going to be "right".

The scope would be greatest in sport. Three weeks from now, after the World Cup final, we will be acclaiming Brazil, or Germany, or France, or whoever, as the greatest football team in the world, which they probably

won't be, any more than England were necessarily the greatest team in the world when they won it in 1966. So much on these great sporting occasions belongs to pure chance. A moment of madness from poor Zubizarreta. A referee who is keen on red cards, rather than one who isn't. Cricket, where the weather or luck with the toss is sometimes decisive, is even more frail in this context than football.

Sometimes we try to get round this by artificial devices. In cricket, third umpires squint over action replays (very soon this will happen in football too). Even that woful invention the penalty shoot-out is a nod to this principle. Of course it's grotesquely unfair that two hours of huge endeavour — even, sometimes, a whole season — can be thrown away in a moment because Gareth Southgate miscalculates. But at least the penalty shoot-out has a smidgen of justice about

it. As an institution, it's equally unfair to both sides.

In our rational moments we understand that triumphs aren't all they seem, but it doesn't stop the losers complaining "we wuz robbed". What a consolation, in the midst of our misery, to have an Edgeworth formula handy to demonstrate the likelihood that the wrong side has won instead of the usual weeping and gnashing of teeth, a losing team's supporters could hold up placards displaying an Edgeworth equation to remind the rest of the world that the winners might not have deserved it.

If the day ever comes when one hears supporters chanting in response to apparent injustice: "One F Y Edgeworth, there's only one F Y Edgeworth" one will know that a great and historic advance in public education has just occurred. "It Should Be You, by Martin Wainwright, Tomolly, Leeds LS19 6JZ."

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Currencies in crisis

G7 fails to still yen fears

Alex Brummer in Tokyo

FINANCIAL officials from the leading industrial countries were striving yesterday to talk up the yen on the foreign-exchange markets amid concern that the weekend statement from the Group of Seven would not be seen as sufficiently firm to push the currency higher.

The main disappointment is Japan's failure to set out a formal timetable for measures to boost the economy, a task which was seen as impossible ahead of Japan's

July 12 Diet elections. "Very clearly [the Japanese] are in an election period," argued Sir Nigel Wicks, the senior official representing the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, at the meeting.

"What effects the electoral constraints will have we will have to wait and see," he added.

The senior American official at the Tokyo meeting, Lawrence Summers, insisted that the communiqué, which promised "co-operation as appropriate" to support the yen, "speaks for itself".

He was responding to traders who were quoted in New

York as saying that the tone of the statement by the G7, who were joined by leading Asian finance ministers, would not hold the yen below 140 to the dollar when trading reopens today.

There are also fears that the crisis at the Long Term Credit Bank could push the Nikkei index back below 15,000.

Shares in both the LTCB and one of its potential rescuers, Nippon Credit Bank, were suspended on Friday pending a clarification of the LTCB's future.

But Tokyo traders were more confident of the US com-

mitment. "The developments of the Japanese steps will be the key to the currency markets over the next month," said Ichiro Ikeda, director of foreign exchange at Credit Suisse First Boston yesterday. "But I think that intervention in any form is possible once the dollar jumps above 140 yen," the trader said.

Confidence in the US staying on board for the present largely stems from President Clinton's trip to Beijing later this week.

The G7 communiqué noted China's commitment to maintain the value of its currency, the renminbi. But that pledge

could ring hollow if the yen starts falling again, making Japanese goods less competitive in international markets. China's assistant minister of finance, Jin Lijun, said that Beijing was encouraged by the G7 statement. "We were very pleased the participants took note of China's contribution to the region."

It has been speculated in Washington and by some Japanese officials, that the US decision to change policy on foreign-exchange intervention was taken by the White House over the heads of Treasury officials.

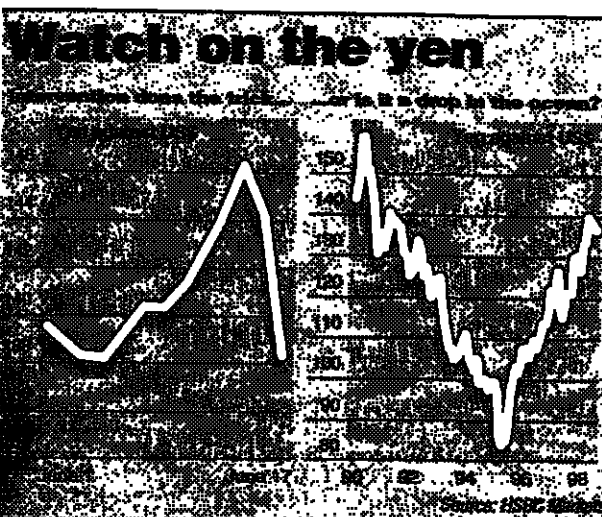
One American official in

Tokyo said US Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin had not recommended intervention because of strategic concerns about China. Mr Rubin had been convinced by Japan's commitment to restructuring.

A senior US official acknowledged privately that the G7 and the Asian finance ministers had no assurance that Japan was ready to bring forward an expansion package to outweigh budget cuts already in place.

But it did undertake to lower corporation and income tax, seen as a disincentive to consumption.

Chinese hold key to US action



Mark Atkinson

LAST week's surprise intervention by the US Federal Reserve to prop up the ailing yen looks like little more than an attempt to spare Bill Clinton's blushes.

The President arrives in Beijing this week for a visit that will capture headlines around the world.

Think how embarrassing it would have been if his trip, already controversial from a human rights perspective, had been overshadowed by the threat of a competitive devaluation of the Chinese currency, the renminbi.

It was a barely concealed threat by the Chinese authorities — previously so reticent about maintaining the value of their currency — to do just this which seems to have prompted this remarkable policy reversal. Only a week earlier, US Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin had been explaining the futility of intervention in the fundamental economic reform.

Yet once the Chinese started grumbling about the threat posed to their flagging economy by the weak yen, the US moved into action.

By its actions on the foreign-exchange, buying yen and selling dollars, the Fed, backed by the Bank of Japan, seems to have presented Mr Clinton with a more favourable backdrop for his visit.

The yen has risen to the mid-like against the dollar, the Chinese are again making reassuring noises about

the renminbi and fears of a global economic catastrophe have receded.

But for how long? The fact remains that without credible measures by the Japanese to purge their financial sector of bad loans and kick-start the recession-hit economy, the yen is likely to remain vulnerable to speculative attack. For now, the markets are reassured that those measures are forthcoming.

Despite past prevarications, the Japanese reason that the Americans would not have agreed to such a policy U-turn without winning private assurances that Japan would act to stop the rot.

In public, the Japanese are certainly encouraging that idea. The Prime Minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto, after a telephone conversation with President Clinton, has pledged to clean up the banking sector, which is saddled with \$227 billion of problem loans, the legacy of the late 1980s asset-price bubble.

He has also promised to speed up the next fiscal package. It is worth \$68.5 billion, and includes spending increases and tax cuts.

However, there is underlying doubt about whether these promises offer anything new, and whether they are deliverable. We have heard warm words before, but have yet to see real action.

To be fair, Japan is constrained by a debt burden amounting to 250 per cent of GDP, according to some estimates, if unfunded pension liabilities are included. It is also hemmed in politically by commitments to consolidate the fiscal position.

Politics and economics are also vital in banking reforms. Welcome steps have been taken, notably April's massive write-off of bad loans.

But there is scepticism about whether the Japanese authorities will bite the bullet of closing or merging



banks too weak to dispose of bad debts, especially with Diet elections imminent.

The upper house election takes place on July 12, and will make it difficult for the ruling Liberal Democratic party to implement unpopular policies in the meantime.

There is also the danger that forcing weak banks to close or merge could trigger a wave of bankruptcies, reinforcing the recessionary forces already at work. There is no easy way out, yet if Japan does nothing the world economy could be back on the brink of disaster.

Over the next few weeks, the threat of further intervention will keep the markets at bay. But in the long term, the yen is likely to resume its downward trend unless intervention is backed by economic reconstruction.

HSBC Markets predicts it will fall to 160 at the turn of the year and, in the absence of any major policy initiative, head towards 170 in 1999.

If the yen starts to decline again, the pressure on China and Hong Kong to devalue could resurface with renewed intensity, especially if the yen falls precipitously. A sudden drop could easily set off a panic.

If the renminbi and the Hong Kong dollar collapse, it will unleash a new wave of devaluations across Asia, sending shockwaves around the world. Immediate victims are likely to be countries with close economic ties, such as Australia and New Zealand.

From there, the contagion could easily spread to susceptible Eastern European and South American currencies.

Europe and America would

not be immune from the financial and economic turmoil either. Indeed, they are already feeling the effects of the original Asian crisis through lost exports and stock-market jitters.

The US trade deficit rose 9.5 per cent in April to a record \$28.8 billion, according to figures released last week. British exports to Asia are running at about half their normal levels. A new round of Asian devaluations would threaten to amplify the damage already inflicted.

In the UK, it could make the difference between a soft and a hard landing. After this month's rise in interest rates, the chances of the economy coming down to earth with a bump have already increased.

While it may appear that the economy is on the verge of overheating, with inflation

and high-street sales both rising, it is probably displaying no more than a last-cycle burst of activity before a period of much slower growth and easing inflationary pressures settles in.

But a fresh shockwave from Asia could so easily stop it in its tracks.

Unemployment is already set to rise — indeed has to, according to most members of the Bank of England's monetary policy committee — to prevent a breach of the Government's 2.5 per cent inflation target.

Another dose of Asian flu could make the roll-call of victims much longer.

That is something to think about when you see President Clinton smiling contentedly on television from China later this week; pray, too, for better news from Japan.

Skid-row for pensioners

Economics made easy

State-funded retirement may soon be a thing of the past, says **Charlotte Denny**

What is the problem with pensions?

In Europe and Japan the big worry is that the ageing of the post-war baby-boom generation will place too great a strain on publicly funded pensions schemes. In countries where retirement benefits are run on a "pay-as-you-go" basis, today's taxpayers fund payments to pensioners. The ratio of workers to retirees is vital to keep the public finances in balance.

Why?

Too many claimants and not enough workers means the Government has to cut benefits or raise taxes. We are living longer and so require benefits for longer. As the boomers start to retire early next century, the age-dependency ratio will rise in most of the industrialised world.

Will this require big tax rises in Britain?

There is no crisis of affordability in the UK, for two reasons. We have an older population structure already and fertility rates didn't decline as dramatically after the baby boom as in the rest of Europe. Pension levels are much less generous here than elsewhere as a result of the previous government cutting the link between pensions and earnings. Because the state pension has been updated only by the rate of inflation each year, pensioners have fallen behind the general rise in incomes among the rest of the population. Milder payment levels and a gentle rise in the dependency ratio means that social security contributions should cover payments for the foreseeable future.

No pension timebomb then?

No, but a different kind of timebomb — pensioner poverty. About half the workforce have

second pensions, either company-based or private. But those people, mostly women and people in low-paid insecure jobs, who are relying on the state pension are going to be very poor indeed. Based on current projections, the state pension will be worth just 8 per cent of average male earnings by the year 2030 — half its current level.

What's the solution?

The Government says it wants everybody to have a second pension to top up the state pension. Those not eligible for company schemes who can't afford personal pensions will be able to join "stakeholder" pension schemes which will be better value. It's not clear yet whether or not these will be compulsory for people who don't have a second pension. It also seems likely that state pension will be boosted, but more closely targeted to the poorest pensioners.

Any other problems?

The new stakeholder pensions will probably be "defined contribution" schemes, like personal pensions. People pay a regular fixed sum into a fund which is then invested and the amount they receive on retirement depends on how well their investment has performed. Occupational or company pensions tend to be "defined benefit" schemes. The amount paid is a ratio of salary, and the final benefit is a proportion of salary. The advantage of the latter is it offers people some certainty, whereas defined contribution schemes can be quite risky, depending on how the stock market is doing.

The Government Actuary — the man in charge of assessing risk for Whitehall — says defined benefit schemes are better for most people.

Indicators

- TODAY —** Jt GDP (Q1).
 - TOMORROW —** UK: GDP (Q1).
 - UK:** Balance of payments (Q1).
 - JP:** Diffusion index (Apr).
 - WEDNESDAY —** SP: GDP (Q1).
 - US:** Durable goods orders (May).
 - THURSDAY —** JP: Bank of Japan monetary policy meeting.
 - GER:** Bundesbank council meeting.
 - UK:** Trade in goods (Apr/May).
 - UK:** CBI industrial trends survey (Jun).
 - FRIDAY —** JP: CPI.
 - US:** Unemployment (May).
 - JP:** Trade balance (Apr).
- Source: HSBC Markets Limited.

Tourist rates — bank sells

Australia 2.66	Germany 2.90	Malaysia 6.52	Singapore 2.72
Austria 20.51	Greece 492.98	Malta 0.635	South Africa 8.95
Belgium 60.16	Hong Kong 12.57	Netherlands 3.269	Spain 245.84
Canada 2.383	India 70.64	New Zealand 3.13	Sweden 12.99
Cyprus 0.855	Ireland 1.148	Norway 12.36	Switzerland 2.02
Denmark 11.17	Israel 6.14	Portugal 296.37	Turkey 421.000
Finland 8.943	Italy 2.681	Saudi Arabia 6.15	USA 1.824
France 9.759			

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Prawns in Exchequer cocktail point to the real Mr X but the wrong party

Worm's eye

Dan Atkinson

THREE cheers for Gold-man Sachs. One minute they're calling the top of the equity market, the next they're calling the top of the property market by reportedly trying to gamify Bill Gates in the race to buy Cliveden. When two of the world's richest enti-

ties are scrapping over a pile near Slough, it's time to quit bricks and mortar.

Whoever wins, here's a parlor game to while away those wet country-house afternoons: Can you identify a Lord of the Treasury from the following description taken from Robin Ramsay's book, *Prawn Cocktail Party*?

"[He] seems to have thought that he was 'modernising' Britain, creating the conditions necessary for its transformation into a modern, social-demo-

cratic European country." Mr X rammed through the biggest reform of interest-rate control in a generation. One of his parliamentary colleagues, Ramsay notes, said only about half a dozen Government MPs had "the least idea" of what Mr X had done.

Mr X himself seemed to imagine that his reform would bring Britain closer to the "partnership" industrial structures of mainland Europe. Alas not. British capitalism was not itching to invest in youth

training and long-term growth; it wanted to get back to its old tricks of property speculation, asset-stripping and rooking the real economy through high interest rates.

Ramsay concludes: "[With] little commercial and no industrial experience, Mr X simply did not understand British capitalism. Given the right... conditions, he believed, British capitalism would increase investment."

But if capitalism had its own agenda, so did Mr X.

Europe was the unchanging priority. Our mystery Treasury Lord is... Edward Heath! That's right, not Gordon Brown. It was Heath's stamp, rather than that of his hapless Chancellor, Tony Barber, that was on the economic strategy of the early 1970s.

The parallels, however, are spooky. As Heath went with the conventional wisdom — reflation — so Brown goes with the conventional wisdom — disinflation. As Heath faced an inflationary crisis from the

Middle East, so Brown may face a deflationary crisis from the Far East. Heath's European stance — negotiate: no more, no less — is as disingenuous as Brown's — prepare and decide.

Above all both seem to cling to the idea that British capitalism is a destructive force only because of some terrible mistake, and that it can be tweaked into good citizenship. A warm welcome, then, for the real boss of Great George Street: Chancellor Heath.

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FinanceGuardian

Monday June 22 1998

George defends rate policy

Bold approach 'could have created damage'

Charlotte Denry
and Mark Atkinson

EDDIE George, Governor of the Bank of England, yesterday hit back at critics of Threadneedle Street's cautious approach to raising interest rates and argued that the Bank acted more aggressively, the econo-

my could still be on the brink of overheating. Since the election, interest rates have been increased to 7.5 per cent from 6 per cent in six quarter-point steps — an attempt to avoid boosting the pound and hitting exports.

But City economists say that this tentative approach has backfired, leaving the markets always expecting further increases and fueling the

pound's rise. A bolder approach from the Bank's monetary policy committee, taking rates up in bigger steps, might have slowed the economy more effectively, they claim, and reassured the markets that further rate rises would not be needed.

"Had interest rates been raised aggressively in the second half of 1997, the impact would now be showing through in a slowdown in domestic demand to a more sustainable pace," said Richard Jeffrey, chief economist at City brokers Charterhouse. "In addition, had interest rates peaked earlier, it is

likely that the appreciation in sterling would have been capped at a lower level."

Mr George denied that tougher steps early on could have prevented the need for further rate rises.

"I don't believe there's any evidence to suggest that, if we yanked them up before, people wouldn't think we were going to have to yank them up even higher now and we wouldn't have done even more damage to a more sustainably exposed sector than they're already suffering," he said in an interview on BBC television yesterday morning. But he acknowledged that

the current level of sterling, which is threatening to break through the three-mark level against the German currency again, was causing problems for the exporters.

"I would take the view that sterling, against the major continental currencies, has been too high for some considerable time," he said.

After hitting DM3.10 in late March on the back of markets' nerves over about the starting line-up for the European single currency, the pound fell back to below 2.90 in May. But the MPC's decision to raise rates, and renewed uncertainty in Asia,

fuelled a new round of sterling strength.

Analysts said the Governor was in no position to complain about the level of sterling, as other members of the MPC had warned that if the pound fell to fast it would increase the likelihood of further rate rises.

Mr George also denied admitting last week that he was wrong to have used his casting vote to prevent further rises in the cost of borrowing earlier this year.

He said: "I didn't say they should have been [raised]. I said I thought it may have been a mistake."

Economics Notebook

Bonuses tighten recession's loop



Victor Keegan

ARE WE about to be plunged into yet another unnecessary recession as a result of a misreading of the pay figures?

On the face of it, last week's revelation that average earnings were rising at 5.2 per cent above the rate a year ago should have us all running for cover.

The figures are even worse when they are broken down to show that private sector increases were 5.6 per cent compared with only 2.5 per cent in the public sector.

There is clearly a problem with private-sector wages, but for several reasons it is not nearly as bad as it looks. Most important, they are buoyed up by temporary influences which will disappear automatically with the economic slow-down. Almost everyone accepts that the latest figures were artificially inflated by the ludicrous bonuses being earned — or unearned, as the case may be — in the City.

Second, figures have also been inflated by the surge of bonus- or performance-related payments seen in the rest of industry — including manufacturing.

These payments have little to do with productivity, but they have a lot to do with past budget concessions for profit-related pay, which are being increasingly exploited as a tax loophole.

This leads to the third reason for high earnings — there is now a rush to get as many of these deals through as quickly possible before the clamp-down announced recently comes into effect.

Economists agree that the economy is entering a cyclical slow-down. During such a period, not only would the core rate of wage inflation be expected to fall but all artificial extras as well.

YET THE Bank of England, supported by the Government, is raising already very high interest rates — which it admits take

up to eighteen months, to come into effect — even higher because of a month or two of misleading pay data.

There is nothing wrong with pay increases as such. Higher real wages are what economic policy is all about. The danger arises when pay runs so far ahead of productivity that prices are forced up to uncompetitive levels.

This is what the Bank and Treasury think at the moment, and their stance seems to be backed by inflation figures showing that prices in May rose from 4.0 per cent to 4.3 per cent on the official measure, or from 3.0 per cent to 3.3 per cent on the Government's preferred measure, excluding mortgage interest.

The trouble is that this is not real-world economics, because in the real world, employers and employees know mortgage rises are a big part of the cost of living, and bargainers still base their claims on the official index that includes them.

The bizarre logic of this is that raising interest rates to curb inflation can produce the opposite result. It can create inflation where it would not otherwise have happened.

If the Government had not raised interest rates then the official retail price index would be rising by only 3.3 per cent.

This is still above the Government's target of 2.5 per cent, but nearly all of the difference is accounted for by fiscal measures.

Strip out this and the underlying rate of inflation is 2.5 per cent, or bang on target.

THE moral is, surely, is to wait and see. The balance of probability is that interest-rate increases already taken — each with a very long lead time — are more than enough to cool down an economy that is already subsiding.

The Government is clobbering a flagging economy and risks turning a slow-down into a full-blown recession.

We would not be in this position if the Government had not discarded one of the most important levers of economic policy: the ability to raise and lower income taxes as demand dictates.

If it is not careful Labour will end up with the same epitaph as the Conservatives: innovative in macroeconomic policy — but labour markets — but absolutely calamitous in macroeconomics.

City of London turns its back on old rivalry

Jill Treanor

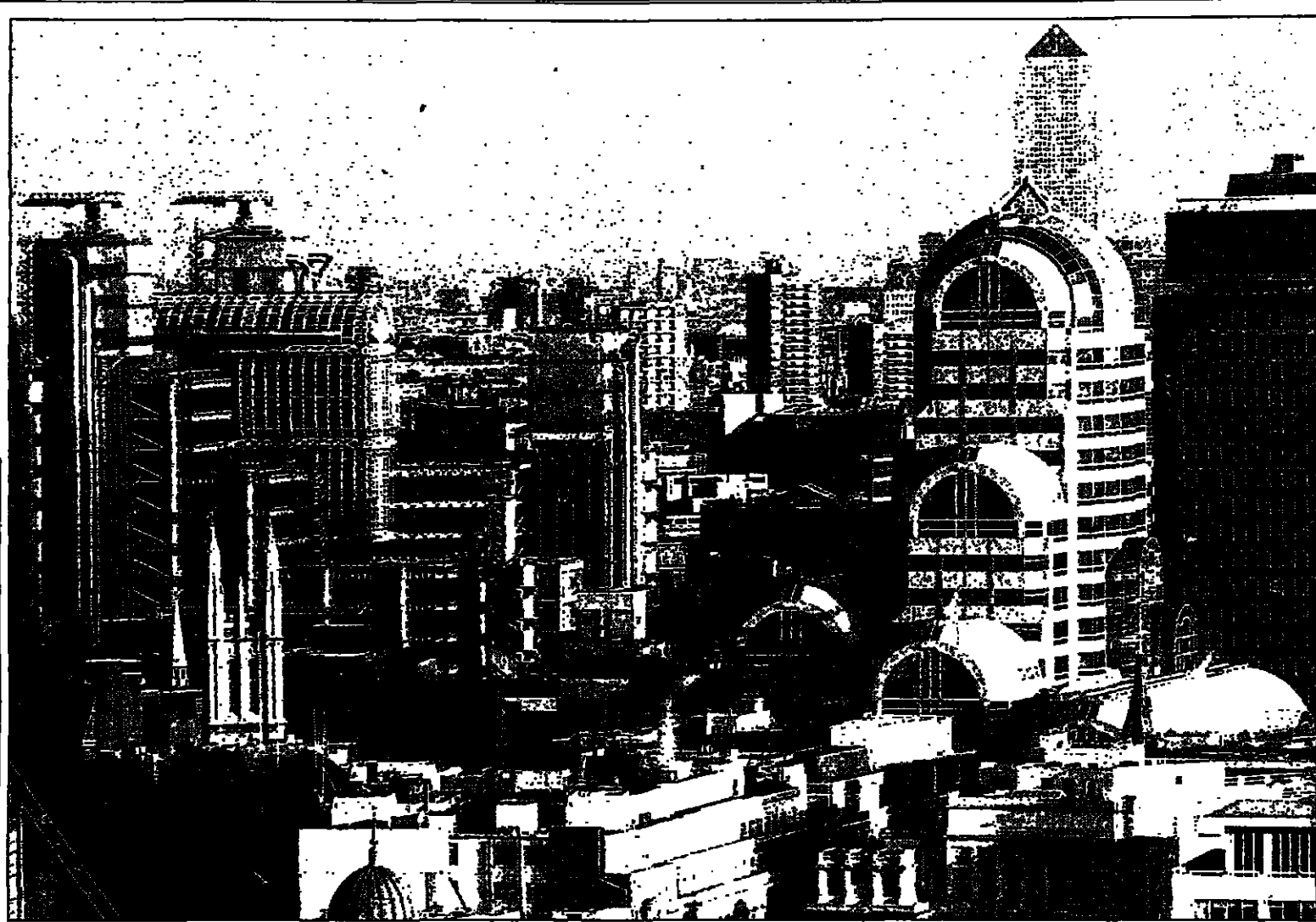
THE Corporation of London and London's Docklands have called a truce. Once fierce rivals to house international financial firms seeking office space in London, the two are now getting together to promote London's role as a leading financial centre.

For years the Corporation of London, the local authority for the Square Mile, has viewed the Docklands development a few miles east with suspicion. Mounting concern that London's role as a leading financial centre is in jeopardy has led to the more conciliatory stance.

"There's more of a realisation that everyone is playing for London," said Tim Chudleigh, head of regeneration at Tower Hamlets, the local authority responsible for Docklands. A report commissioned by the Corporation highlighted the need for European financial centres to work together. Judith Mayhew, chairwoman of the Corporation of London's Policy and Resources Committee, also acknowledged that London needs to unite.

"London is an integrated financial centre. Places like Docklands and the West End are very important. We've all got to pull together," she said.

Some senior City sources believe Docklands is playing an important role in keeping



The City Corporation has decided to try to learn to love its towering Docklands neighbour

PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID SILLOTTE

London competitive as a financial centre by easing pressure on rental prices.

According to property company Richard Ellis, Docklands is still able to offer new, purpose-built office buildings at 336 per square foot, cheaper than the Square Mile, where rents have risen to 348 per square foot, their highest for many years.

Docklands is still feeling the benefit of the tax breaks it gained under its Enterprise Zone status which ended in 1992. Howard Davies, chairman of the Financial Services

Authority, the new City super-regulator which is itself in the process of relocating to Docklands, highlighted the role Docklands has played in "moderating" City rents in a recent speech to a Docklands audience.

"I believe the City Corporation is now recognising that the expansion of the City's frontiers eastwards is a sign of the City's success, and not an indication of failure, and indeed an important guarantor of the continued health and vitality of the financial centre," Mr Davies said.

In a few months, London has lost its decade-long role as the home to derivatives trading in German government bonds while some German banks are perceived to be taking control of their operations back to Frankfurt from London.

New competitive pressures surface regularly. At the weekend there was speculation about a link-up between Nasdaq in the US and the German Börsen, which would aim to take on London as a leading centre for trading in international stocks.

World trade centre will rise from devastated Docklands

THE buildings devastated by the Docklands bomb in 1996 are to be refurbished in a 260 million project converting them into a world trade centre, writes Jill Treanor.

Sunny Crouch, former marketing head of the London Docklands Development Corporation, has been appointed chief executive of the World Trade Centre London. She said she aimed to transform

the three buildings into a complex connected by a giant atrium which will house a conference centre.

Capital and Provident, a private property development firm, is providing funding for the project. The buildings are earmarked for a 314-room hotel, office space for small and medium-sized businesses and 93 residential units, including a fitness centre.

Governor loses trousers as Greek bank workers strip anti-privatisation argument to bare essentials

Helena Smith in Athens

THE Greek Prime Minister yesterday insisted that he would forge ahead with his controversial economic programme despite seeing a top lieutenant almost lynched and stripped of his clothes by protesting union members.

Karis Stamatopoulos, governor of the state-owned Ionian bank whose privatisation kicks off the Socialists' privatisation programme, had his clothes torn off by furious employees as shareholders met to vote on its sale.

Television showed Mr Stamatopoulos fleeing the meeting in terror, desperately holding on to his underwear, after outraged union members shredded his suit.

The privatisation of the bank, Greece's fourth largest, will not nip the protests in the bud. Yesterday Ionian employees, who have wreaked havoc on the financial sector with a six-week strike, pledged to challenge its sale in court.

Opposition to the government's 18-month convergence programme will peak this week when it attempts to reform the labour market by introducing "flexible" working hours.

But the Socialist leader, Costas Simitis, has promised to press on with Greece's modernisation whatever the cost.

This is a brave stance for a government that has seen its popularity nosedive over the fiscal measures.



Coats-off bargaining style

PHOTOGRAPH: LEFTIS PITSANIS

Attempts to bring Greece, the European Union's poorest state, into line with its partners by trimming its public sector deficits have become increasingly ugly.

The industrial action has moved into high gear with the announcement of yet more strikes by employees protesting at drastic cost-cutting measures at Olympic Airways, the cash-strapped national airline.

Tourists, who account for the bulk of Greece's foreign currency earnings, have been warned to expect fur-

ther turmoil at Greece's two main ports.

For the past week dockworkers have closed harbours in Piraeus and Salonika to commercial traffic in protest over plans to privatise local port authorities.

"This action will go on until the government understands that Greeks can no longer go along with economic austerity," said Christos Polyzogopoulos, who heads the Confederation of workers, Greece's biggest union.

Clash over PowerGen

Chris Barrie

THE generator PowerGen is in talks with East Midlands Electricity with a view to buying the Nottingham-based firm for £2 billion in a deal that could require the Government to make one of the toughest regulatory decisions it has faced since coming to power.

The acquisition, which is still under negotiation, would strengthen PowerGen's position in the domestic market ahead of the introduction of competition in supplying electricity to homes.

It would also see PowerGen chairman Ed Wallis realise

his ambition to create a vertically integrated electricity group. His plans to buy East Midlands were thwarted in April 1996 when Ian Lang, then trade and industry secretary in the Conservative government, unexpectedly blocked both PowerGen and National Power plans to buy regional electricity companies.

East Midlands was subsequently bought by US firm Dominion Resources. Other power firms have indicated that any decision by the Government to allow PowerGen to buy a power supplier could be challenged in the courts on the grounds that the regulatory process had been influenced by ministers

desire to solve the coal crisis. A judicial review would be sought on the grounds that PowerGen was being allowed to make the acquisition as part of a trade-off in which it and National Power agreed in turn to sell plant to rivals as part of official efforts to protect the coal industry.

Gas industry watchdog Clare Spottiswoode is pushing ahead with plans to force BG, the pipeline and international division of what was British Gas, to unbundle monopoly elements of its business before she leaves office in the autumn. BG is preparing to set up a storage business for up to £1 billion in four stages.

Lloyd's profit in jeopardy

Jill Treanor

ONE more catastrophe in the world this year would put Lloyd's of London into the red after three years of profits of more than a billion pounds, according to forecasts by a leading Lloyd's researcher to be published tomorrow.

Increased competition is drastically reducing operation margins for the 155 syndicates underwriting insurance at the Lloyd's market.

Marcus Rivaldi, an analyst at Syndicate Underwriting Research is predicting the insurance market, which reported profits of 121 per cent of capacity in 1996, will

make profits of only 2.9 per cent of its capacity in 1998.

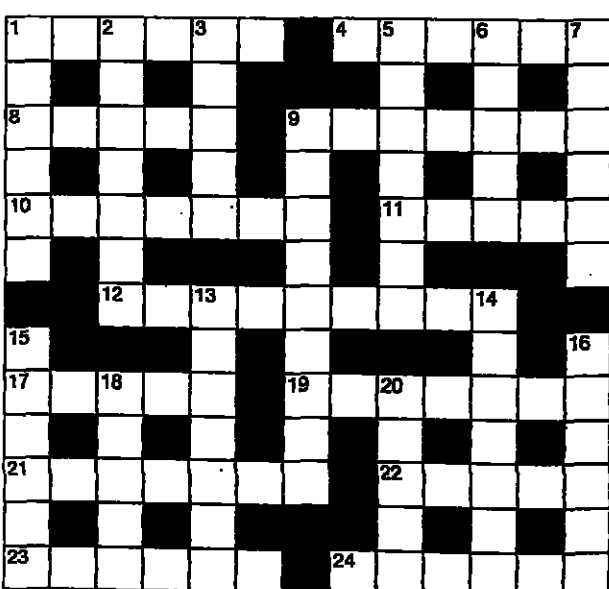
"Two point nine per cent is wafer-thin, and that could be eroded if the market suffered a significant catastrophe," he said. Lloyd's, which reports its profits with a three-year time lag, has warned that it expects conditions to get tougher for 1998. The market has told underwriters that they will need to use all their "skill and ingenuity" to make

"very good" by SURL. The research firm, which was recently bought by ratings agency Moody's, found that 32 of the syndicates were below average and one of them was deemed C, the lowest possible rating awarded.

The ratings show insurance professionals and market investors have the potential to outperform over the medium to long-term.

The two syndicates which received the A-rating were Bill Rendall of syndicate number 779 which is managed by Cassidy Davis, a small life syndicate and syndicate 557 which is underwritten by Bill Rendall and managed by R. Kilo.

Quick Crossword No. 8780

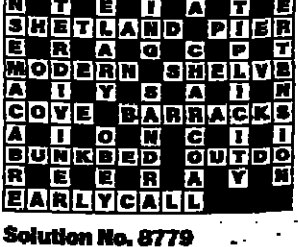


Across

- 1 Concealment — punishment (6)
- 2 Small stones (6)
- 3 Underground railway (5)
- 4 Feminine vade-mecum? (7)
- 5 Oil from flax (7)
- 6 Beginning (of disease etc) (5)
- 7 Small boat (5)
- 8 Immediate importance (7)
- 9 Passed — transported (7)
- 10 Main artery (5)
- 11 Capital city (5)
- 12 Ghosts — sun-glasses (5)

Down

- 1 Lowly (6)
- 2 Easing of tension (7)
- 3 Loop with sliding knot (5)
- 4 Spite (7)
- 5 Feelings in the atmosphere (5)
- 6 (Papal) ambassador (5)
- 7 Dyed-in-the-wool (5)
- 8 Spanish or Portuguese (7)
- 9 Number — division of shire (7)
- 10 Wattle (tree) (6)
- 11 Way round town or heart (5)
- 12 Is called the 23 of the — (5)
- 13 Grind (one's teeth) (5)



Solution No. 8779

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Sport



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Hot Chile
Wimbledon holds
its breath as
Rios arrives
20



Lock out

England forward banned for five games

22

Second Cornhill Test



Lording it ... South Africa celebrate another wicket as England continue their sorry demise at Lord's yesterday afternoon, at one stage losing six men for 11 runs in the space of 12 overs. PHOTOGRAPH: JOHN MARRAS

England crumble to ten-wicket defeat

Mike Selvey witnesses more disgrace inside the Grace Gates as South Africa saunter home

HE bizarre realization that the design for the new space media centre at Lord's has been based on nothing less than Wallace's piano-keyboard grin was not the most appropriate yesterday. This was no laughing place as England, teetering drunkenly from a position of relative financial afternoon, lost the second Test by 10 wickets, giving South Africa a one-match advantage in the series.

It was a case not so much of the wrong trousers (that was 1996) as the wrong "four years ago" as both legs in one hole. All it will need is for the footballers to foul up against Romania and for Tim Lincecum to exit Wimbledon in the first round to complete the cringing days for English sport at the cricket edge.

It was the ferocity of a quality in which England appear to be abundant besides, even at a time when they appear to have their strongest spear for years.

Having been bowled out by Allan Donald and Shaun Pollock in prime bowling condition on Saturday, both could have shut their eyes and imagined they were running in at Kingsmead such was the heat and stifling humidity - England, following on 250 behind, were 105 for two overnight with Nasser Hussain unbeaten on 52. They lost the nightwatchman Dean Jones early on, but then

flourished gloriously as Hussain and Alec Stewart took the attack, the bowlers with a few exceptions, were all saving the second new ball in the process. Shortly after lunch, Hussain, to his unbridled joy, reached his first century at Lord's in any cricket season. In Tests, he went on to reach 100, while Stewart made 66.

There it all but ended. The batsmen collapsed in the afternoon heat like guardsmen at the Trooping of the Colours. In the first of the four centuries for three had become 238 for nine, the damage done not by Donald or Pollock, but by the second-string spear-carriers Lance Knisner and Jacques Kallis, who swung the ball around disconcertingly at times. On the ground that became so familiar to him during his summer with Middlesex last year, Kallis took four for 25 in the first innings of his career. County cricket is too often denigrated by those abroad, but it does not prevent them from using it as a finishing school. Kallis is merely the latest example of letting the county cricket of your territory before the battle.

This may have been the longest day but had it not been for a jaunty last-wicket partnership of 31 between Angus Fraser and Robert Croft the match would not have extended beyond the tea interval. As it was, the prospect of chasing all of 15 to win

Scoreboard

[illegible]

proved none too daunting for Gary Kirsten and Daryll Cullinan (opening instead of Adam Bacher who hurt his right shoulder in the field).

It was further evidence that England and this few acres of St John's Wood are not natural bedfellows. Afterwards, Jonty Rhodes awarded the Man-of-the-Match award by Bob Willis for his century and the Man-of-the-Match by David Gower to comment on the "power of Lords". To a born-again Christian this was the longest half-volley of the week. Team England could do no better than to lose to the Wingfield-Digby immediately.

There had been no indication of impending havoc during an exhilarating morning session. By the time Donald and Pollock conceded, 59 runs had been scored by the new ball, Hussain rampaging from 73 to 100 with the aid of six boundaries and a three.

It was Kallis's dismissal that sparked the slide. Driving a Stewarts appeared to have edged to the wicket-keeper, although his demeanour and the long pause to watch the replay screen conveyed the impression that he was in the contest. Two overs later Graham Thorpe was given out lbw without scoring — a poor decision this by George Sharp, the ball having been in the air when the umpire had croaked him earlier in the over by turning down an appeal for a catch behind when the ball clipped the off stump without dislodging a ball.

Following a full day of rain, Mark Waugh was immediately yorked by Klusener, although goodness only knows the state of his mind. On Saturday he had played out of his socks for an hour and a half, only to be ad-

Judge, appearing behind the Darrrell Hall even though the ball had come off his elbow, Ramprakash dived and then spoke to Hair on his way back to the pavilion. It was not his compliment him on the quality of his catch.

He reported "physical and verbal dissent" to the referee Javed Burki, who because of "the state of the match and Ramprakash's injuries" delayed his decision "until the appropriate time". This appeared to be while Ramprakash was waiting to bat yesterday, when he was informed that he would be fined 25 per cent of his salary for "inappropriate conduct" and receive a one-month ban suspended for six months pending good behaviour.


In this day and age where decisions are left to the umpires, players are expected to show respect and courtesy and an equanimity to match the alacrity they exhibit when things go their way. It must be fearfully difficult to control their in the heat of the game and remain composed. It is, Ramprakash can have no quibble, and might have missed the Yorker in any case.

But Burki's timing cannot have helped. Ramprakash might also look to Stewart's reaction to Sharp's verdict — or Donald's pouting pussiness when a catch from Hussain to short leg was, correctly, deemed to have come from the hands of the batsman — and wonder about consistency. He might be tempted to be intending to "have a word" with both. Big deal.

Paul Weaver, page 18

BOMBARDIER

Number: 4394



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CHARLES WELLS FAMILY BREWERY, BEDFORD, EST. 1870
BREWING FOR ENGLAND

CHARLES WELLS FAMILY BREWERY, BEDFORD. EST. 1876
BREWING FOR ENGLAND

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■ Notebook

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will continue

1. The first step is to identify the problem. This involves understanding the current situation and the goals that need to be achieved.

2. The second step is to analyze the problem. This involves breaking down the problem into smaller, more manageable parts and identifying the causes of the problem.

3. The third step is to develop a plan. This involves determining the steps that need to be taken to solve the problem and the resources that will be needed.

4. The fourth step is to implement the plan. This involves putting the plan into action and monitoring progress.

5. The fifth step is to evaluate the results. This involves assessing the effectiveness of the solution and making adjustments as needed.

The first of these is the fact that the industry is now facing a new set of challenges. The most significant of these is the increasing competition from other forms of entertainment, such as television and the internet. This has led to a decline in the number of people attending live performances, which has in turn led to a decline in the revenue of the industry. Another challenge is the increasing cost of production, which has led to a decline in the number of new productions being created. Finally, the industry is also facing a new set of challenges in the form of piracy and copyright infringement, which has led to a decline in the revenue of the industry.

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Password No. 878

Yesterday's results

Germany 2 Yugoslavia 2
Tahirov 73 Stankovic 13
Berhoff 50 Stojkovic 54
Aft. 4. 1. 40,775

Argentina 5 Jamaica 0
Ortega 32, 53
Boschutti 73, 79, 83 (pen)
Aft. 4. 1. 40,775

Road to the final



A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brazil	2	2	0	0	5	1	6
Norway	2	0	2	0	3	2	2
Scotland	2	0	1	1	2	1	1
Morocco	2	0	1	1	2	1	1

Match 20: Brazil vs. Scotland	2-1
Match 21: Norway vs. Morocco	2-0
Match 22: Scotland vs. Morocco	1-1
Match 23: Brazil vs. Norway	2-0
Match 24: Scotland vs. Norway	1-0
Match 25: Brazil vs. Morocco	2-0
Match 26: Scotland vs. Norway	1-0
Match 27: Brazil vs. Morocco	2-0
Match 28: Scotland vs. Norway	1-0
Match 29: Brazil vs. Morocco	2-0
Match 30: Scotland vs. Norway	1-0

B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italy	2	1	1	0	5	2	4
China	2	0	2	0	3	3	2
Australia	2	0	2	0	3	3	2
Cameroon	2	0	1	1	1	4	1

Match 31: Italy vs. China	2-1
Match 32: Australia vs. Cameroon	2-0
Match 33: Italy vs. Australia	2-1
Match 34: China vs. Cameroon	0-0
Match 35: Italy vs. Cameroon	2-0
Match 36: China vs. Australia	0-0
Match 37: Italy vs. Cameroon	2-0
Match 38: China vs. Australia	0-0
Match 39: Italy vs. Cameroon	2-0
Match 40: China vs. Australia	0-0

C	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	2	0	0	7	0	6
Denmark	2	1	0	1	4	1	3
South Africa	2	0	1	1	4	1	1
Saudi Arabia	2	0	0	2	0	5	0

Match 41: France vs. Denmark	3-1
Match 42: South Africa vs. Saudi Arabia	2-0
Match 43: France vs. Saudi Arabia	2-0
Match 44: Denmark vs. South Africa	1-0
Match 45: France vs. South Africa	2-0
Match 46: Denmark vs. Saudi Arabia	1-0
Match 47: France vs. Saudi Arabia	2-0
Match 48: Denmark vs. South Africa	1-0
Match 49: France vs. South Africa	2-0
Match 50: Denmark vs. Saudi Arabia	1-0

D	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nigeria	2	2	0	0	4	0	6
Paraguay	2	0	2	0	3	2	2
Bulgaria	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Spain	2	0	1	1	2	1	1

Match 51: Nigeria vs. Paraguay	2-0
Match 52: Bulgaria vs. Spain	0-0
Match 53: Nigeria vs. Spain	2-0
Match 54: Paraguay vs. Bulgaria	0-0
Match 55: Nigeria vs. Bulgaria	2-0
Match 56: Paraguay vs. Spain	0-0
Match 57: Nigeria vs. Spain	2-0
Match 58: Paraguay vs. Bulgaria	0-0
Match 59: Nigeria vs. Bulgaria	2-0
Match 60: Paraguay vs. Spain	0-0

E	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Holland	2	1	1	0	5	0	4
Mexico	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
Belgium	2	0	2	0	3	3	2
S. Korea	2	0	2	0	1	0	2

Match 61: Holland vs. Mexico	2-1
Match 62: Belgium vs. S. Korea	2-0
Match 63: Holland vs. S. Korea	2-0
Match 64: Mexico vs. Belgium	0-0
Match 65: Holland vs. Belgium	2-0
Match 66: Mexico vs. S. Korea	0-0
Match 67: Holland vs. S. Korea	2-0
Match 68: Mexico vs. Belgium	0-0
Match 69: Holland vs. Belgium	2-0
Match 70: Mexico vs. S. Korea	0-0

F	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Germany	2	1	1	0	4	2	3
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
Iran	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
USA	2	0	1	1	0	2	1

Match 71: Germany vs. Yugoslavia	2-1
Match 72: Iran vs. USA	0-0
Match 73: Germany vs. USA	2-0
Match 74: Yugoslavia vs. Iran	1-0
Match 75: Germany vs. Iran	2-0
Match 76: Yugoslavia vs. USA	1-0
Match 77: Germany vs. USA	2-0
Match 78: Yugoslavia vs. Iran	1-0
Match 79: Germany vs. Iran	2-0
Match 80: Yugoslavia vs. USA	1-0

G	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	2	1	1	0	2	0	3
Romania	2	1	0	1	0	0	3
Colombia	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Tunisia	2	0	1	1	0	2	1

Match 81: England vs. Romania	2-0
Match 82: Colombia vs. Tunisia	0-0
Match 83: England vs. Tunisia	2-0
Match 84: Romania vs. Colombia	0-0
Match 85: England vs. Colombia	2-0
Match 86: Romania vs. Tunisia	0-0
Match 87: England vs. Tunisia	2-0
Match 88: Romania vs. Colombia	0-0
Match 89: England vs. Colombia	2-0
Match 90: Romania vs. Tunisia	0-0

H	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Argentina	2	2	0	0	5	0	6
Croatia	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Japan	2	0	2	0	2	0	2
Jamaica	2	0	2	0	1	3	2

Match 91: Argentina vs. Croatia	2-0
Match 92: Japan vs. Jamaica	0-0
Match 93: Argentina vs. Jamaica	2-0
Match 94: Croatia vs. Japan	0-0
Match 95: Argentina vs. Japan	2-0
Match 96: Croatia vs. Jamaica	0-0
Match 97: Argentina vs. Jamaica	2-0
Match 98: Croatia vs. Japan	0-0
Match 99: Argentina vs. Japan	2-0
Match 100: Croatia vs. Jamaica	0-0

SECOND ROUND

Match 101: Brazil vs. Nigeria	2-0
Match 102: Group B runners-up vs. Group A runners-up	
Match 103: Group C winners vs. Group D runners-up	
Match 104: Group E winners vs. Group F runners-up	
Match 105: Group G winners vs. Group H runners-up	
Match 106: Group I winners vs. Group J runners-up	
Match 107: Group K winners vs. Group L runners-up	
Match 108: Group M winners vs. Group N runners-up	
Match 109: Group O winners vs. Group P runners-up	
Match 110: Group Q winners vs. Group R runners-up	

QUARTER FINALS

Match 111: Game 1 winners vs. Game 2 winners	
Match 112: Game 3 winners vs. Game 4 winners	
Match 113: Game 5 winners vs. Game 6 winners	
Match 114: Game 7 winners vs. Game 8 winners	
Match 115: Game 9 winners vs. Game 10 winners	
Match 116: Game 11 winners vs. Game 12 winners	
Match 117: Game 13 winners vs. Game 14 winners	
Match 118: Game 15 winners vs. Game 16 winners	
Match 119: Game 17 winners vs. Game 18 winners	
Match 120: Game 19 winners vs. Game 20 winners	

SEMI FINALS

Match 121: Game A winners vs. Game B winners	
Match 122: Game C winners vs. Game D winners	
Match 123: Game E winners vs. Game F winners	
Match 124: Game G winners vs. Game H winners	
Match 125: Game I winners vs. Game J winners	
Match 126: Game K winners vs. Game L winners	
Match 127: Game M winners vs. Game N winners	
Match 128: Game O winners vs. Game P winners	
Match 129: Game Q winners vs. Game R winners	
Match 130: Game S winners vs. Game T winners	

3RD/4TH PLACE PLAY-OFF

Match 131: Losers of first semi-final	
Match 132: Losers of second semi-final	
Match 133: Losers of third semi-final	
Match 134: Losers of fourth semi-final	
Match 135: Losers of fifth semi-final	
Match 136: Losers of sixth semi-final	
Match 137: Losers of seventh semi-final	
Match 138: Losers of eighth semi-final	
Match 139: Losers of ninth semi-final	
Match 140: Losers of tenth semi-final	

FINAL

Match 141: Winner of first semi-final	
Match 142: Winner of second semi-final	
Match 143: Winner of third semi-final	
Match 144: Winner of fourth semi-final	
Match 145: Winner of fifth semi-final	
Match 146: Winner of sixth semi-final	
Match 147: Winner of seventh semi-final	
Match 148: Winner of eighth semi-final	
Match 149: Winner of ninth semi-final	
Match 150: Winner of tenth semi-final	

France 98



Estili resolve... the Iran player makes a fine fist of celebrating the goal that put his side ahead against the United States

PHOTOGRAPH: TOM JENKINS

Group F: United States 1 Iran 2

Iran bloody America's nose

First World Cup goals for 20 years help outsiders to victory in Lyon

IRAN scored their first goals in the World Cup finals for 20 years as Hamid Estili and Mehdi Mahdavi sent the United States home early from France 98.

The 31-year-old midfielder Estili rose brilliantly to head home a right-wing cross by Javad Zarincheh five minutes before half-time and then Mahdavi fired home a second in the 84th minute. Brian McBride, the US centre-forward pulled back a consolation goal in the 87th minute.

The Iranians presented a bouquet to each of their rivals before the kick off and the Americans linked arms with them for a photo opportunity for the hundreds of the world's press photographers.

But once the civilities were over it was down to serious business with both teams seeking their first points of the competition to avoid early flights home.

The United States had come to attack after their dismal showing a week ago against Germany and their coach Steve Sampson included McBride up front to assist Roy Wegerle.

Iran were under pressure and their proud record of being the only team without a yellow card in the first series of games soon disappeared when Mehrdad Minavand was booked quite rightly for a clumsy assault from behind on Frankie Hejduk.

The bookings total reached parity when David Regis was shown the card for a late tackle on Javad Zarincheh.

For all the fierce noise of the Iranian crowd, it was the United States who began the match with a blizzard of high-speed attacks. In the second minute Brian McBride rose to meet Claudio Reyna's free-kick with a header which sent the ball looping over the grounded Ahmad Abdezhad, only to bounce off the Iranian crossbar.

A minute later Cobi Jones, the former Coventry City player who recently made his 100th international appearance, raced down the left to meet Joe-Max Moore's carefully weighted pass. But when his speed took him to the goal-line, he could do no better than cut the ball back behind three team-mates who had raced into the area.

The Iranian players were having difficulty in organising themselves. But Iran's own first glimpse of a chance came soon afterwards, when Mehdi Mahdavi narrowly failed to slip between two American defenders inside the area.

McBride, the United States centre-forward, hit the post on the quarter-hour, only to be given offside, but the Iranians were starting to take the initiative. Their supporters made sounds of outrage when their hero, Azizi, was clumsily upended by the Franco-American defender David Regis, but a minute later they had even greater cause for complaint when Azizi, clean through, appeared to be flattened by Kasey Keller just inside the area. The referee, Urs Meier of Switzerland, waved play on.

As the Iranians increased the pressure, Hejduk de-



lected Minavand's shot and Karim Bagheri drove a free-kick high and wide from the edge of the area. The Americans were now confined to breakaways, and it was during a rare attack that Claudio Reyna, 35 yards out, curled in a left-foot shot which came back off Abdezhad's left-hand post. Iranian cheers filled the stadium when their goalkeeper made a perfectly ordinary catch from Tab Ramos's long-range drive.

It was no great surprise when Iran took the lead after

40 minutes. Javad Zarincheh's right-wing cross was met by Hamid Estili with a header from 15 yards which looped across Keller's dive. The roars and screams as the ball nestled in the net shook the foundations of the Stade Gerland, if not of the Islamic Republic.

Three minutes later, with the Americans looking in need of reorganisation, the diminutive Azizi threatened to increase the lead when he wriggled clear on the right flank of the US defence and aimed to shoot from a narrow angle, only to slice his shot well wide.

In the 67th minute Mahdavi broke free from the mayhem that had become almost exclusively contained in Iran's under-steps penalty area to defeat Keller with a cool cross shot of pin-point accuracy into the far corner.

But their team, only the third best in Asia, had to run one more gamut in what seemed interminably injury time after Brian McBride squeezed home an 87th minute shot for the Americans.

Iran's goalkeeper, Hossein Behrouz Badi, was forced to make a last-ditch save as McBride's shot hit the crossbar.

Iran's goalkeeper, Hossein Behrouz Badi, was forced to make a last-ditch save as McBride's shot hit the crossbar.

Burley starts as he left off

Patrick Glenn in St Remy finds Scotland ready to go for broke against Morocco

SCOTLAND's manager Craig Brown made an early declaration of policy yesterday when he confirmed that Craig Burley will start in midfield in the final Group A match against Morocco in St Etienne tomorrow.

The significance of Burley's switch from right wing-back, where he started against Brazil and Norway, is that for Brown this match contains different imperatives from the first two. Even though a draw would be enough to see Scotland through if Norway were to lose by more than one goal to Brazil, Brown is proceeding on the assumption that his team have to win.

Burley's only taste of the role he favours came in the last 25 minutes of the Norway game, when he scored the equaliser which kept the Scots in the tournament.

"We'll firm up the team tomorrow," said Brown, "but I can tell you now that Burley will be in midfield.

"We haven't delayed putting him there because, as some people have said, I have a blind spot where he is concerned. For us it's always a case of using players where they are best suited. Brazil and Norway had very dangerous players wide on their left, Roberto Carlos and Vidar Riseth. Craig defends very well against that kind of player but the Moroccan don't have anyone like that, so now we can move him and give him the opportunity to get forward and have a pop at goal.

Brown is likely to start with the side who finished against Brazil, with Burley in midfield alongside Paul Lambert and John Collins, David Weir in central defence, the injured Colin Calderwood and Jackie McNamara on the right of the defence.

The Scotland manager is

mildly concerned at the sudden increase in red cards and said a possible reason was a visit that Joao Havelange, the outgoing president of FIFA, made to a gathering of World Cup referees on Friday. Havelange told them that, if they were in any doubt about whether an offence should be punished by a yellow or a red card, they should incline towards red.

Scotland's game will be handled by the Egyptian Said Bousain and Brown said: "Our referees officer at the SFA, George Cumming, has spoken to our players about him. He has told them Bousain speaks very good English, is very experienced, very confident and very assertive.

"I wouldn't be too concerned about our players. We committed 13 fouls against Brazil and against Norway we had only seven given against us and that is exceptional."

Brown would not say so publicly but he would accept a washing-line of yellow cards against Morocco if it meant reaching the second round.

South African sent home after living up to his name

IT JUST had to happen. When Henning Berg of Denmark and Teddy Sheringham of England, to name but two, played on after sampling the night-life, South Africa's finest has inevitably come a cropper. His name? Naughty. Naughty Mokone and his fellow midfielder Brendan Augustine are to be sent home from France after staying out until dawn yesterday.

Augustine, who started both of South Africa's

matches and Mokone will miss the rest of their country's first World Cup finals after night-clubbing until 5.10am in Vichy.

The South African Football Association president Molefi Oliphant said the two went out on Saturday night in violation of a curfew. "It's not a mistake, it's defiance," he said.

South Africa's coach Philippe Troussier had reached the end of his tether with the pair. "It is the second time these play-

All the scores

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Finance 98

Hats off

Ross sees an impressive Yugoslavia thwarted in Lyon

latistuta dance bewildered Re

Match stats

Chelsea's Frank, Stuart Pearce and Danny Gabbidon

Within 30 seconds, Stuart Pearce found a way through the Chelsea defence, the keeper Warren Bennett

Match stats

Possession: Chelsea 45, Arsenal 55

Attempts on target: Chelsea 12, Arsenal 8

Goals: Stuart Pearce (1), Frank Lampard (1)

Fouls: Chelsea 15, Arsenal 10

Offsides: Chelsea 3, Arsenal 2

Bookings: Stuart Pearce (1), Frank Lampard (1)

Sendings-off: None

Society

Every Wednesday in the

The Guardian

France 98

Kimono-clad fans from the Land of the Rising Sun flock to France and worship the pin-up boy of the J-League

Harry Pearson



ON THE day that Japan played Argentina I shared a taxi to the stadium with a trio of kimono-clad teenage girls from Tokyo. Each was clutching a cardboard lunchbox in one hand and a little white-and-red pennant in the other.

Frenchman whose driving style had clearly been heavily influenced by the performance of Steve McQueen in the film Bullitt, the girls watched for brand names from their homeland. Each time they saw one they called it out, cheered and waved their flags with a rustle of silk and paper. "Honda, burrah! Canon, yay! Yamaha, ra, ra!"

There are many Japanese products on sale in France and the adolescents soon became bored and asked where I was from. When I told them they made staccato noises of approval, giggled and covered their mouths with their hands. The girl in the front seat turned around, smiled and said, "I like David Beckham."

Her friend on my left nodded, "I like David Beckham." Their compatriot on the other side of me, who clearly had a more original turn of mind, thought for a moment before adding, "I like Arsène Wenger."

There are estimated to be about 30,000 Japanese football fans in France. You see them everywhere, at railway stations early in the morning waking up bleary-eyed and shivering, on trains or walking through city centres wearing T-shirts bearing the hopeful Magic Marker slogan, "I seek tickets for Japan games". Because, like the teenagers with whom I shared the taxi, most of them have travelled here ticketless and, with

cheapest black market prices for Japan's matches reportedly nudging the £350 mark, very little chance of seeing their team in action.

But perhaps that is not altogether the point of their being here. More than perhaps any other country the Japanese have come to France to take part. For the younger, western-influenced generation who make up the bulk of the nation's football fans, the World Cup offers a welcome chance to join in.

The game has also produced a new form of national hero. Chief among these is Hidetoshi Nakata, the 21-year-old playmaker of Bellmare Hiratsuka, pin-up boy of the J-League, the Japanese David

Beckham. Nakata has designer stubble and a rebel image. He has been heavily criticised by older Japanese players, including Kazu Mura who had a brief spell with Genoa in Serie A, for "lacking respect".

The midfielder has further emphasised his singularity by dyeing his hair a shade of ginger, a bridle more usually associated with border territories. Even more than his coiffure, it is Nakata's bearing which marks him out. Whatever his abilities he carries himself like a star. As he loiters in space 10 yards or so from the action there is a languid arrogance about him. If FIFA rules allowed it you sense that he would have his hands

in his pockets and be chewing a toothpick.

In Toulouse Nakata had only limited chances to show his skills in a game Argentina did not so much dominate as totally suppress. Nestor Sensi marshalled his defenders brilliantly; Japan's forwards were not so much an attack as a polite reproach.

ATER, in the press centre, Japanese journalists solicit opinions from their western counterparts on their team's performance in general and that of Nakata in particular. The orange-scarfed No. 8 is said to be learning Italian and English in his spare time. Do you think, the pressmen ask

eagerly, he could make it in Serie A or the Premiership? You sense that they are willing you to be impressed. Their faces fall when it becomes clear that you are not.

In Nantes against Croatia there were more hopeful signs for the Japanese. Nakata played well, producing an impudent lobbed pass over the Croatian defensive wall from a free-kick, and later robbing an opposition midfielder, surging forward into the Croatia half and delivering a perfect 35-yard shot to Masashi Nakayama, whose shot was well saved.

These moments, along with Shoji Jo's bicycle kick and the inch-perfect tackle with which Yutaka Akita robbed Davor Suker as he bore down on goal, are positive. Whatever the impact of their team, Japan's fans, with their drums, painted faces and pointed blue hats decorated with hundreds of miniature rising-sun flags, have certainly made an impression. In Toulouse they matched the Argentinians for volume; in Nantes they out-chaunted the Croats. When a French television commentator described the Japanese in the Stade de la Beaujoire as "very, very passionate" his remark was followed by a loud squeak. It was the sound of popular perceptions being shifted.

● A collection of Harry Pearson's writing on the World Cup will appear in the August issue of *When Saturday Comes*

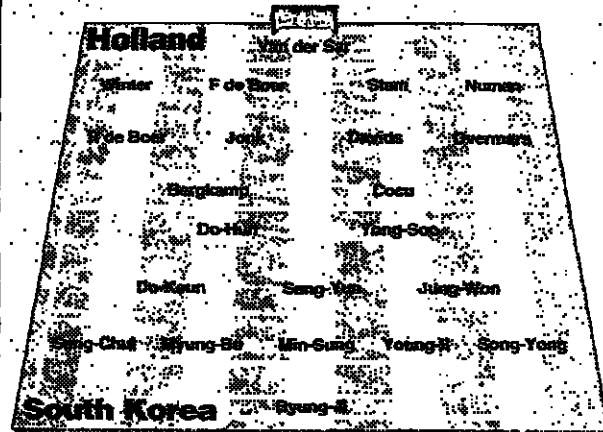
Group E: Holland 5 South Korea 0

Bergkamp makes the Orange juices flow

Martin Thorpe in Marseille sees the Dutch united and in total command

SUDDENLY the future could be Orange. Okay, Holland beat only South Korea here, so perhaps one should not read too much into this result, but other fancied teams have struggled to beat their weaker brethren.

Holland's coach Guus Hiddink will have been pleased to see Dennis Bergkamp come back unscathed after two months out injured. The threat posed by his touch, pace, vision and trickery up front supplied Holland with a



how they scored their goals but how they celebrated them, with black hugging white and vice versa, a sign that the racial tension which blighted them in England two years ago has been lifted.

Davids, twice, and Bergkamp had gone close when, on 37 minutes, the latter set up Cocu for Holland's opener, a shot across the keeper from 19 yards. Four minutes later a brace began by Bergkamp and continued by Wim Jonk ended with Marc Overmars swaying past two defenders before dispatching Holland's second.

In the 71st minute Bergkamp's persistence saw off two defenders, a great piece of close control saw off two more and a poke past the keeper found the net.

Eight minutes later the substitute Pierre van Hooijdonk headed home Overmars's cross. Ronald de Boer added the fifth from Jonk's pass to complete the Koreans' worst defeat in 44 years.

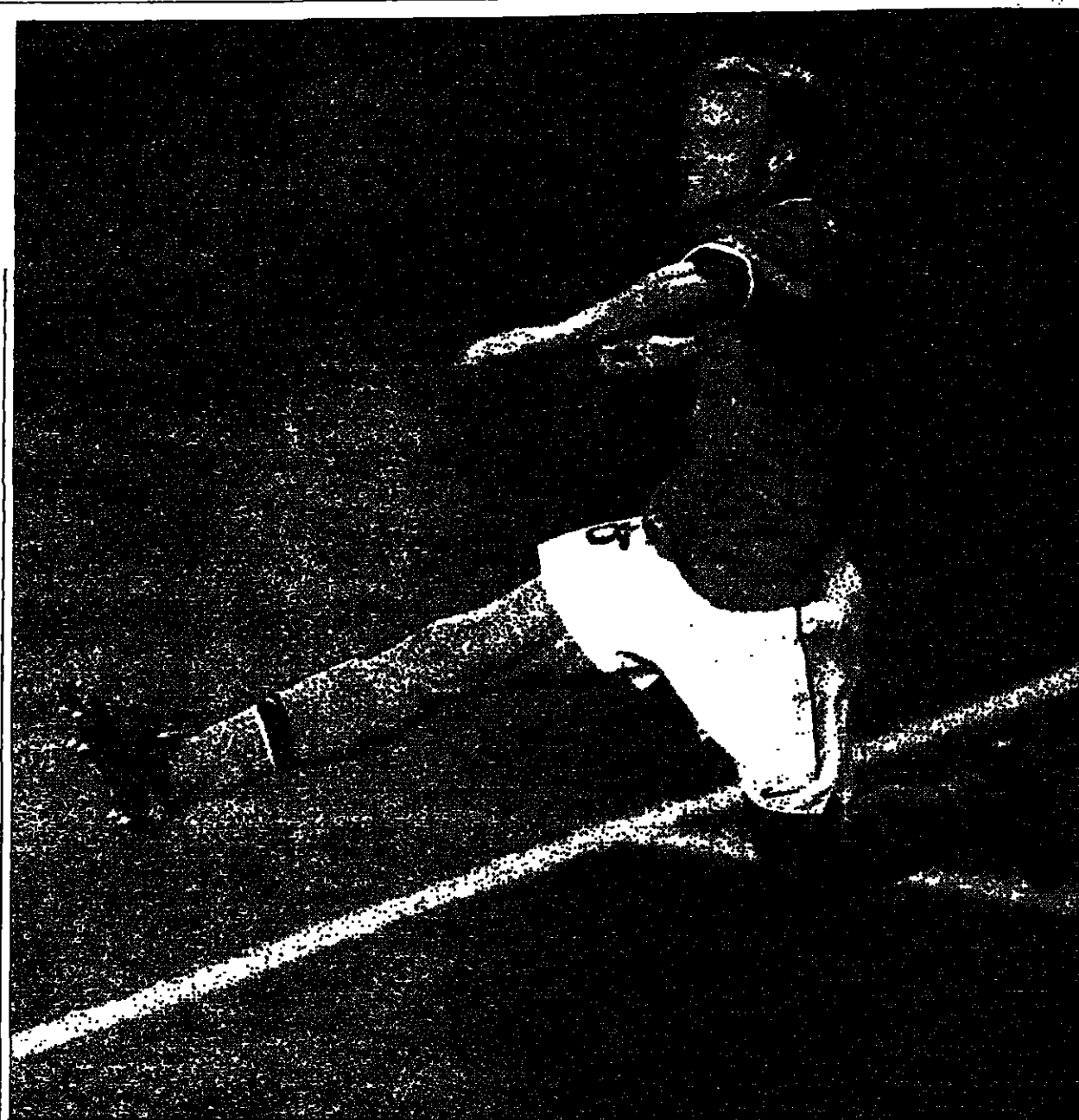
SUBSTITUTIONS Holland: Boer for Numan, 78min; Zenden for R de Boer, 86; Van Hooijdonk for Bergkamp, 73. South Korea: Kim Tae-Yong for Choi Sung-Yang, 53; Kim Jong-Soo for Kim Do-Hoon, 77; Lee Dong-Gook for Seo Jung-Won, 77.

BOOKED South Korea: Choi Yong-Soo, Kim Jong-Soo.

REFEREE: H Wojcik (Poland).

Match stats

	Hol	Kor
Possession	58%	42%
Attempts on target	14	2
Attempts off target	11	9
Corners	6	3
Fouls	10	13
Offsides	5	4
Bookings	0	2
Sendings-off	0	0



Jumping for Joy... Dennis Bergkamp celebrates his goal against South Korea at the Stade Velodrome. LAURENCE GRIFFITHS

Belgium 2 Mexico 2

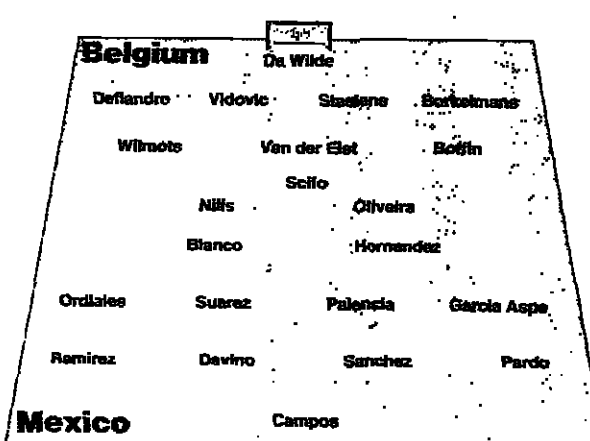
Belgian caution amid reds

John Duncan in Bordeaux

IT IS being put about that red cards will ruin this World Cup. The two shown here, however, one to each side in the space of 20 minutes, were certainly justified and made a potentially negative game into one of the most exciting of the tournament so far.

The first to feel the ire of the Scottish referee Hugh Dallas was Pavel Pardo, the Mexican defender. In the 20th minute for an indisputable tackle from behind. Certainly it was not the worst the tournament has seen but it was the sort of challenge the new law was intended to stamp out and he had to go.

That left Mexico, who had started the more positively, somewhat shell-shocked. They had begun with three attackers, knowing the onus was on them to win. Belgium continued to show the absence of ambition which had so annoyed everyone in their opener against Holland and though they scored just before half-time Marc Wilmots striking through Jorge Campos's legs with his thigh, from Luis Oliveira's corner — there



were only two Belgians among six Mexican defenders. They got a second when Wilmots, whose nickname is the Wild Boar, charged at the defence. Claudio Suarez bounced off him and, stumbling, he crashed the ball past Campos. That surely was that. If they could hold out against Overmars et al, then Mexico with 10 men should pose few problems.

Foolishly they sat back and let Mexico come at them. "We should have been more ambitious and gone for the third," said their coach Georges Leekens. "You saw the result of just playing around with the

ball. I am not happy at all." After 59 minutes Gert Verheyen, who had come on for Danny Boffin 38 minutes earlier, was caught napping by Cuauhtemoc Blanco's incisive ball into the area and pulled down Ramon Ramirez. The award was obvious, the sending-off indisputable, and the penalty itself, from Mexico's captain and inspiration Alberto Garcia Aspe, was unstoppable. Mexico suddenly believed in themselves; Belgium looked scared.

Six minutes later Ramirez got away down the left after an interchange with Garcia Aspe and crossed to the far post, where Blanco threw himself left foot first and volleyed just inside the post.

In the end Belgium have been dealt a better hand. If they beat South Korea by three clear goals, then Mexico will have to defeat Holland to reach the second round. Anything less than that margin and Holland and Mexico can both go through with a draw.

SUBSTITUTIONS Belgium: Verheyen for Boffin, 18min; De Boeck for Van der Elst, 57; Mpenza for Nils, 77. Mexico: Claudio Suarez for Pardo, 45; Villa for Ordiales, 56; Luis for Garcia Aspe, 88. BOOKED Belgium: Verheyen. Mexico: Pardo. REFEREE: H Dallas (Scotland).

Romania?

No sweat.

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Ta-ta Cha, ciao Carlos as axes fall

CHA BUM-KUN became the second managerial scapegoat of France 98 yesterday morning when he was dismissed in the wake of South Korea's 3-0 drubbing by Holland, a numbing reverse that saw the 2002 joint hosts effectively eliminated after two games.

Cha's dismissal followed hot on the heels of that of Carlos Alberto Parreira, the Saudi Arabia coach, who was removed on Saturday after the 4-0 defeat by France. Cha, 45, will be replaced by his assistant, Kim Pyong-Sok, for Thursday's final game against Belgium.

One KFA official suggested South Korea would need shock therapy to appease angry fans, who stayed up overnight in Seoul to watch the rout — Korea's heaviest defeat in the finals since 1954 — on giant screens mounted on the sides of skyscrapers. Seeing their traditional rivals and 2002 co-hosts Japan achieve a comparative triumph in holding

Croatia to a single-goal victory made the pill even harder to swallow. After 13 games in five finals, the Koreans are still seeking that elusive first win.

For his part, Cha could justly claim to have been short-changed by the Fates: the Koreans were one up after half an hour against Mexico when Ha Seok-Ju, the goalscorer, was sent off, altering the entire complexion of the contest. The decision to drop Parreira was taken by Prince Faisal at a hastily convened

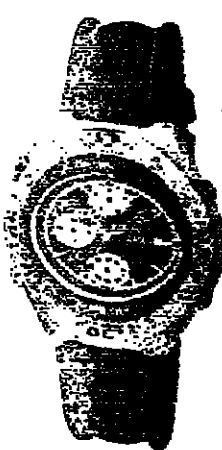
meeting in Paris. Mohammed al-Kharachi, the Saudi national coach, has been put in charge for Wednesday's final match against South Africa.

The hiring of Parreira, who led Brazil to the game's summit at USA 94, always looked likely to end in failure. Saudi officials convinced themselves that, by taking him on last December, a touch of the samba would rub off. Against France in particular, evidence was in distinctly short supply.

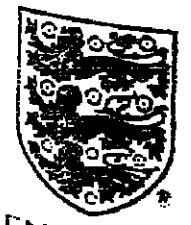
port: Derek Potter. Photograph: Don McPherson

I dropped for three... a hard day since he... team, so... told the... get the... then leave... Scholar

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France 98



'I dropped him for three games, a hard decision since he was the team, so good I told the boys to get the ball and then leave it to Scholar'

The school of Scholes salutes a boy wonder

Report: Derek Potter

Photograph: Don McPhee

IT IS unlikely Glenn Hoddle would dare contemplate dropping Paul Scholes after his match-winning performance against Tunisia. Such is the Manchester United forward's high standing with the public that the coach's job would be in jeopardy should England then lose to Romania tonight. But one coach did drop him and not only did he live to tell the tale but he believes Scholes became a better player for it. Vincent Turner managed his primary school team with the seal of a professional and the enthusiastic backing of a football-loving mum. "I had another boy off for being particularly cheeky," recalls Turner, now retired from St Mary's Primary School, Langley, north of Manchester. "He didn't react but Paul just laughed out loud and I decided he had to be disciplined. "So I dropped him for three matches. That was a hard decision because he was the team. He was so good I used to tell the boys to get the ball into the middle and leave the rest to 'Scholar', as they called him. "Fortunately we won the three games Paul missed and that showed him the team could succeed without him, that no player is ever indispensable. Paul passed the test, didn't rebel and I never had a minute's trouble with him.

"He was easily the best young footballer I have seen. It was clear that he would be good, though I never thought he would be good enough to play for England. "When I knew him better I realised he probably laughed that day not out of impudence but because he was quite a shy and nervous type. Some boys would have taken the huff and packed football in then. "I didn't think Paul would forgive me for dropping him like that, but he did. "Scholes was the spearhead of a team who regularly won the local Clayton Cup and the Middleton Junior school League title. Switching him from the right flank to the centre of the attack despite his lack of physique (he stopped growing just short of 5ft 7in) was an easy decision for 'The Boss', his maths, English and PE teacher. Scholes would always score even against older and bigger boys. "Hoddle and England have a faith healer; Turner and St Mary's had Sister Barbara Breen, the head teacher, now retired, who added to Scholes's fan mail with a long letter of congratulations and good wishes last week. "Sister Barbara loved football and that meant everybody tried harder to please her," Turner recalls fondly. "She allowed me to give foot-

ball a lot of time on the curriculum because she believed it was good for the boys. She used to watch from a classroom window and we could see her jumping up and down every time we scored. It was usually Paul. "Scholes moved to the Cardinal Langley comprehensive school, considered an 'attentive and well-behaved' scholar. "He was good at English and maths, but I think he lost interest later when it became clear that he had enough talent to make football a career," says Turner. "Sir" was delighted with his protegee's superb goal against Tunisia. "I rated it a 10-out-of-10 goal. "Sister Barbara's accolade was equally supportive; perhaps even biased. "It was a wonderful goal and Paul looked no different on the TV than he did all those years ago; such a lively, lovely, healthy boy, full of life. "Full of football and goals too. "What St Mary's and Sister Barbara already knew was confirmed when Scholes joined a local club, Boundary Park Juniors, where his flair developed and his goals flowed, once almost 70 in a season. David Platt, Trevor Sinclair and Scholes's United team-mates Nicky Butt and Gary and Phil Neville all



Striking role model... Sister Barbara Breen, former head teacher of St Mary's primary school, Langley, proudly points out to current pupils the famous old boy Paul Scholes



Class of 84... Scholes, bottom, in St Mary's cup-winning side

graduated from that academy, one that produced footballers seemingly for fun and worth an estimated £40 million. United's assistant manager Brian Kidd, a north Mancunian himself, scooped up the best, including the asthma sufferer Scholes, into the Old Trafford net. Cricket nets at the other Old Trafford might have captured Scholes had the current football calendar allowed the development of dual sportsmen like the Comptons, Willie Watson, Arthur Milton and many others. Scholes enjoyed cricket. "He was a batsman and a natural off-spinner who could also bowl the ball down," recalls Mike Coffey, his sports master at Cardinal Langley and a United scout. "He joined the local club [Middleton CC] and I'm sure he could have at least played at Lancashire League level. But he was totally focused on football. That was his only interest, though he was the type who was so enviably good at any ball game. He never got into trouble. "Coffey has been logged as the scout who discovered Scholes. There were, he stresses, others equally impressed to recommend the youngster to United. Scholes was first "spotted" by Pat Horrocks, his teacher

Fact file

1974: Born Salford on November 16.
1991: Signs for Manchester United as a trainee.
1993: Signs professional forms with United.
1994: Makes league debut on September 24 v Ipswich. Scores five goals in 17 league appearances during season.
1996: Scores 10 goals as United win Double.
1997: Hits three goals in 24 league appearances as Manchester United retain Premiership title. Called into England squad. On May 24 makes debut as a substitute against South Africa at Old Trafford.
Plays for England in Le Tournoi, scoring on his first start against Italy. On September 10 scores opening goal in World Cup qualifier as England trounce Moldova 4-0.
1998: Makes 31 League appearances for United, scoring eight goals, as they finish runners-up to Arsenal. Selected for England's World Cup squad. On June 15 scores a spectacular second goal as England win opening World Cup match against Tunisia in Marseille.
In the first year of junior school, "I know nothing about football," she admits. "But I could see that, while the ball ran away from the other boys, it seemed to be tied to Paul's feet. I got quite excited about his obvious talent. "It's no surprise he's developed. Despite his ability he was always so unassuming and never made a fuss. "The children loved watching him play in Marseille. They were wild with excitement and pride. "Until recently Scholes, 23, stuck to his roots, living with his parents and sister Joanne, 20, on the huge Langley estate, one of Europe's biggest. Paul's father, Stewart, a footballer of semi-professional standard who still plays, says: "Of course we're all proud, but we just prefer to stay in the background. We like the low profile. "Scholes is flying the family out for England's final group game on Friday when he will again be in the spotlight, happy for his feet to do the talking. His family will do their best to be lost in the crowd in Lens. "Our Paul" has already had the first, and last, laugh in his career. It is some way from being over.

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Colombia primed

ANTONY DE AVILA, a survivor of Colombia's 1990 and 1994 World Cup campaigns, will replace the expelled Faustino Asprilla against Tunisia in this afternoon's Group G game in Montpellier. De Avila is likely to be joined by Adolfo Valencia in a new-look attack. Valencia, known as "The Train", seems certain to be preferred to the out-of-form Victor Aristizabal by Colombia's coach Hernan Darío Gomez. The 34-year-old De Avila played in 12 of Colombia's qualifying matches, mainly as a substitute, and scored three goals, including a late winner against Ecuador last July. For both sides defeat would mean an early departure from the tournament. Colombia's 36-year-old playmaker Carlos Valderrama, for whom this is almost certainly his last World Cup, said: "It's a complicated and tough game. If we lose on Monday it's all over for us." Colombia will be without the injured Maurizio Serna in

midfield and Gomez is expected to give Jorge Bolano his debut. Tunisia's hopes have been hit by the leg injury that has put their libero Khaled Badra out of the tournament. He will be replaced by Ferid Chouchane. "It's a big blow," said Tunisia's coach Henryk Kasperczak, "but Chouchane knows what he's doing. He'll be up to the job." Kasperczak is expected to make changes from the team who lost to England, with Zoubir Beya likely to be in the starting line-up after coming on as a substitute in Marseille. For Kasperczak and Valderrama, who were at Montpellier in the early Nineties, it will be like old times except that they will be in opposition. "It's going to be a rather interesting reunion. We'll embrace as before, I'm sure," said Kasperczak, who coached the French side from 1990-92 when Valderrama made a disappointing foray into European football.

Ilie coiled to strike at England

ADRIAN ILIE, the Romanian striker called "The Cobra" because of his deadliness in front of goal, is ready to put the bite on England's World Cup hopes. The Valencia player scored the winner against Colombia last Monday and believes he can do the same against Glenn Hoddle's team. In fact Ilie is confident that, with success against England, his team can go far in the tournament. "As ever, England will be very physical and we will be very technical; it's a clash of styles that could favour us," he said. "Qualification for the second round would

then be assured and I'm certain that we're capable of going further." Ilie, who has shrugged off the leg muscle injury he picked up last Monday, revealed that Romania are relying on Chelsea's Dan Petrescu for a low-down on the England side. Petrescu, who will go head-to-head down the right wing against his Chelsea team-mate Graeme Le Saux, is relishing the challenge but remains unsure of a welcome at Stamford Bridge should his side triumph. Romania are expected to field the side who started against Colombia.



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Slagger

A side-on glance at cricket



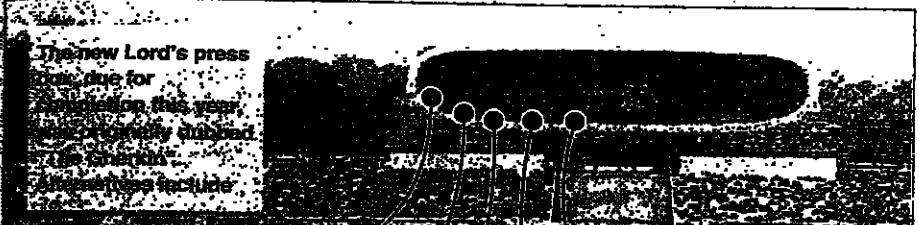
The Old Grey Whistle Test XI They could have sung for their supper

Haircuts 100
No.5 Colin McCool
Never was a name less apt. More baffling a dodgy loc-dream than Somerset's haircut. Still, the haircut of the Old Grey Whistle Test XI was revolutionary. The haircut was said to be a far more apt name.

Richard Eaves MOC, Staffs and something of a Motorhead
Charlie McCarthy "Governor-General" was no fool on the hill
Garry Richards Street-fighting Hampshire Man
Samuel Jagger Seldom, if ever, derived much satisfaction
Harvey Keitel Aussie keeper with impressive ding-a-ling
Arthur Hodge Joni's distant and long-lost Yorkshire cousin
David Thomas Who's Busted for country but not county
Vanburn Holder Windies quickie Slade 'em in the skies
Jackie Hendrick Windies stumper prone to purple business
Danny Morrison Two dozen Test ducks for Kiwi moodancer
Richard Eaves Dark Blue trundler in blue suede shoes

Gratuitous Graphic

Names that Meejah Centre



The Pickled Beaut
Gubby's Folly
The Hack Hutch
The Silly Sausage
The Beeb Tube

Six steps to Devon



Lord's press conference for the first time. The press conference was held in the Lord's press box. The press conference was held in the Lord's press box. The press conference was held in the Lord's press box.

Everything you need to know

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Big shout

Murmurs from the outfield. "I'm not allowed to do that," Prince Harry declines Nasser Hussain's offer to contribute to his benefit brochure.

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Face off... Allan Donald stares in disbelief at Nasser Hussain as the paceman's appeal for a catch is turned down

Burki demands improved discipline

Paul Weaver sees Ramprakash punished in a Lord's Test which although finishing early saw plenty of controversial decisions

JAVED BURKI, the International Cricket Council referee, will demand a higher level of discipline at a meeting with the captains and management teams of both England and South Africa on the eve of the third Test which starts at Old Trafford on Thursday week.

Such meetings take place before every Test match but on this occasion Burki, who is officiating for the series, will register his disappointment with the discipline shown by players from both sides during the Lord's Test.

Burki fined Mark Ramprakash £850 and gave him a one-match suspension, which will be suspended for six months, over his reaction to his first-innings dismissal, when he appeared

tethered to his crease after being given out by the Australian umpire Darrell Hair and then made a comment on his way back to the pavilion. The announcement of the player's punishment was delayed because Ramprakash did not want it made public before his second innings. He is the first Englishman to be given a match suspension by the ICC.

Burki, however, perhaps unwilling to appear like one of those FIFA referees after meeting with the president Garry Whittaker, resisted the temptation to wave a fistful of red cards at Alec Stewart and Allan Donald, who both registered animated disapproval with umpiring decisions.

For England this match carried uneasy echoes of their previous Test meeting with South Africa at Lord's. Then they were also heavily beaten and their captain Mike Atherton narrowly escaped the sack after the infamous "dirt-in-the-pocket" scandal.

Stewart's behaviour yesterday was hardly on that scale but after being given out caught behind he shook his head with disbelief throughout his long trudge to the pavilion and repeatedly looked over his shoulder for confirmation of his grievance on the video-replay screen.

The emphatic nature of South Africa's victory can only dismay an England side who feel, man for man, that they are the stronger team. Certainly most judges, compiling a single team from the 22 here,

would select six or seven Englishmen, with Donald, Shaun Pollock, Gary Kirsten and Jacques Kallis the main challengers.

But once again South Africa played the harder match. In the field, at least, they are clearly the better side and this was their third victory over England in 10 Tests since their return to the international game. England have won only once.

Stewart, however, was doggedly optimistic about England's chances. "They did us here, which is why they lead 1-0, but we know the code to beat them from Edgbaston. If you look back at our recent series you will see that there isn't much in it."

"You have to give them credit, because they played well and you can't say our guys got out to bad shots. The ball swung and we got out. We came to this game slightly ahead on points, we're leaving it slightly behind. But I feel we will go into the next match feeling we have a great chance of beating them after going close in Birmingham."

The South Africa captain Hansie Cronje said: "The ball certainly swung around on day one or two but we would have batted first if we had won the toss, we didn't want to bat last. We needed a little luck but Jonty Rhodes is the ideal batsman in that situation. We did a lot of soul-searching after the performance of our bowlers in Birmingham but we've come back well."

"We did well to bowl them out for 110 but before we went out there we had a team meeting and our target was 120. Even our 12th man played his part today."

"When Brian McMillan walked past the umpire George Sharp he remarked that he wasn't giving many decisions. Suddenly six batsmen were gone!"

Championship: Lancashire v Surrey

Flintoff blasts 34 in an over

ON another black day for English cricket, Adam Holoake at least was prepared to identify a silver lining, having witnessed a truly remarkable innings from the young Lancashire batsman Andy Flintoff.

Flintoff hit 61 from 24 balls, including 34 in an over from his former England under-19 team-mate Alex Tudor, as Lancashire romped to a victory over Surrey, who were reduced to 10 all out.

"It was awesome," said Holoake. "I was standing at backward point thinking to myself that anyone who says there is no young talent in English cricket should come and watch these two guys."

"Alex had got Flintoff for a duck in the first innings, and Flintoff responds like that."

Flintoff came to the crease in the 34th over with Lancashire two wickets down and needing a further 99 from just over 19 overs. He stated his intentions by driving Rupesh Amin, Surrey's young left-arm spinner, for an effortless straight boundary. But the

real carnage came in the 41st over, bowled by Tudor, who had taken five wickets in the first innings. Flintoff hit the first ball, a no-ball, for six. The next four went for four, the third completing his 20-ball half-century, the fourth off another no ball. He hit the next two for six but failed to connect with the eighth and last delivery, and so had to settle for 34 off the over. It equalled the Lancashire record set by Frank Hayes off the bowling of Malcolm Nash at Swansea in 1977.

At the start of the next over, Flintoff held out in deep mid-wicket, leaving Nathan Wood, who ended unbeaten on 80, to complete Lancashire's second consecutive championship victory. It takes them to fifth in the table, 20 points behind Surrey, with a game in hand.

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"When Brian McMillan walked past the umpire George Sharp he remarked that he wasn't giving many decisions. Suddenly six batsmen were gone!"

AXA League round-up

Loye lays down century law

MAL LOYE's colleagues could be forgiven for wondering whether he is wandering around in a purple haze. Northamptonshire's insatiable Cornishman, his bat seemingly as broad as the late Colin Milburn's beam, made 108 off 118 balls at Wantage Road to prevent Middlesex from taking advantage of the leaders Lancashire's previous engagement and bouncing back to the top of the AXA League.

The visitors were indebted to Justin Langer, who suffered a blow to the head from Franklyn Rose in Saturday's championship fixture but grunted his teeth to make an undefeated 67, yet support was minimal and an eventual total of 205 for eight was far too modest. So modest, in fact, that Loye and his captain Kevin Curran (54 not out) sealed a nine-wicket win — only their side's second of the campaign — with almost four overs to spare.

Essex too were denied in their efforts to reclaim the leadership, losing by seven wickets at Bath under Duck-

worth-Lewis calculations. Having been put in by Somerset under a blazing sun, they made a decidedly sub-par 209 for nine from their 40 overs, the captain Paul Prichard top scoring with 60. Somerset were 89 for one from 19 overs when rain meant a revised target, requiring them to make a further 34 from six overs; Mike Burns (53) led them home with seven balls in hand.

David Byas made an unbeaten 79 to steer Yorkshire to a six-wicket win over Durham in front of 4,000 at Chester-le-Street, moving up to Lancashire's shoulder in the table and ruining the groundsman Tom Flintoff's benefit match.

Chasing 181, Yorkshire seemed to be cruising home when Byas and Darren Lehmann put on 94 for the second wicket, whereupon Lehmann's exit for 52, coupled with tight bowling, changed the game and Yorkshire needed 41 off

the last five overs. Richard Blakey's swift 25 not out saw them home with five balls to spare, thus maintaining their record of winning every one-day away game this season.

Another batsman to give the selectors a sizeable nudge was Graeme Hick, surplus to requirements after a late call-up to Lord's, whose 118 from 118 balls paved the way for Gloucestershire's 13-run win over Worcestershire at New Road. Hick's induction into the game's new hall of fame was formally marked with a silver salver from the club chairman John Elliott after he hit eight fours and three sixes in his side's 207 for seven.

In pre-valling by seven runs at Hove, Warwickshire, the champions, owed much to that rarest of recent sights, a decent innings from Brian Lara. With 59, he and Neil Smith (80) added 128 to consign Sussex to their sixth successive home defeat.

Cheers, mate



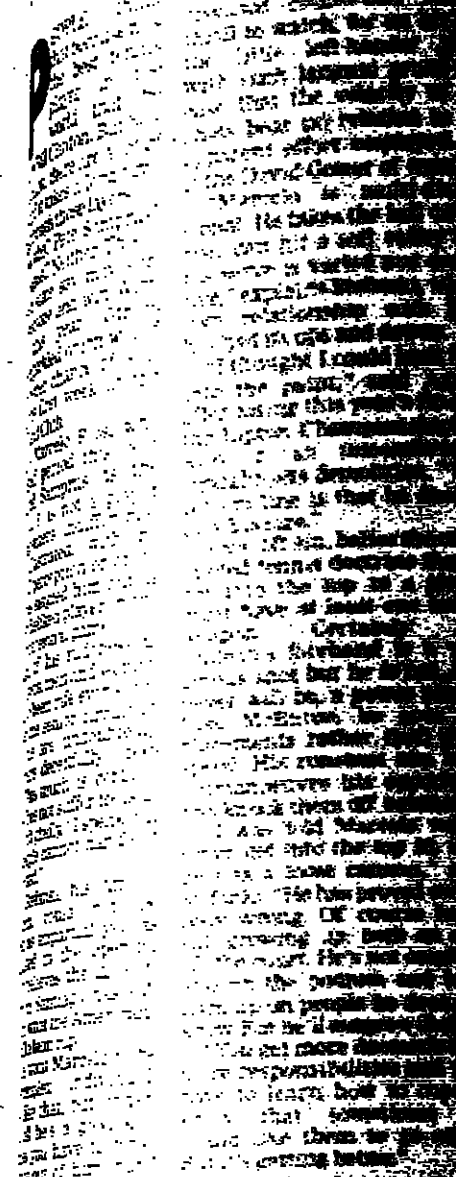
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education

Every Tuesday in the

The Guardian

...edon holds its breath
...ean Marcelo Rios blow
...own. **Stephen Elia**
...s the No. 2 seed in the
...st of health but cursing
...ad hang-up about grass



Men's singles

Holder Pete Sampras

(1) P Samppras (US) v D Hrbaty (Slovak)
M Tilstrom (Swe) v M Washington (US)
D Nestor (Can) v T Enqvist (Swe)
S Draper (Aus) v R Schuttler (Ger)
K Alarn (Mor) v B Macphie (US)
M Damm (Cz) v C Grosjean (Fr)
R Vasek (Cz) v O Gross (Ger)
C Van Garsee (Bel) v (16) F Mantilla (Sp)

(10) A Carretja (Sp) v J Gimelslob (US)
J Knippschild (Ger) v M Woodforde (Aus)
P Haarhuis (Neth) v J Tarango (US)
G Kuerten (Bra) v J Stötenberg (Aus)
L Arnold (Arg) v B Uhlirach (Cz)
D Bracciali (Ita) v M Lee (GB)
A O'Brien (US) v K Carlsen (Den)
M Philippoussis (Aus) v (7) Y Kafelnikov (Rus)

(3) P Korda (Cz) v J Sanchez (Sp)
S Campbell (US) v F Dewulf (Bel)
D Sappford (GB) v J Gilmard (Fr)
D Wheaton (US) v N Escude (Fr)
S Lareau (Can) v R Reneberg (US)
J Van Lottum (Neth) v G Racoux (Fr)
T Haas (Ger) v R Delgado (Pan)
A Calatrava (Sp) v (13) A Agassi (US)

(12) T Henman (GB) v J Novak (Cz)
T Kerola (Fin) v D Nandori (RSA)
J-M Gambir (US) v S Schalken (Neth)
B Black (Zim) v R Fromberg (Aus)
M Potbury (GB) v M Gustafsson (Swe)
J Vilaca (Sp) v M Chang (US)
T Nydström (Swe) v H Gurm (Arg)
I Heutgerer (Slo) v (5) P Rafter (Aus)

(5) C Moya (Sp) v M Bhupathi (Ind)
A Richardson (GB) v H Arazzi (Mor)
S Sargsian (Arm) v A Portas (Sp)
M Filippov (Uru) v M Larsson (Swe)
N Lapentti (Ecu) v D Prinosil (Ger)
J Semerink (Neth) v S Dosedel (Cz)
S Pescosolido (Ita) v J-A Martin (Sp)
O Dliuca (US) v (11) J Bjorkman (Swe)

- (14) G Ivanisovic (Cro) v G Stafford (SA)
- M Safin (Rus) v A Medvedev (Ukr)
- G Pozzo (Ita) v D Vacek (Cz)
- J Burillo (Sp) v M Gohlner (Ger)
- T Woodbridge (Aus) v G Blanco (Sp)
- W Black (Zim) v L Paes (Ind)
- T Martin (US) v A Sa (Bra)
- M Draper (Aus) v G Russeloid (GB)

(B) C. Pictoline (Fr) v M. Rosset (Swi)
M. Knowles (Bah) v C. Wilkinson (GB)
M. Norman (Swe) v A. Costa (Sp)
A. Clement (Fr) v W. Ferreira (SA)
J. Alonso (Sp) v N. Kiefer (Ger)
H. Dreierkorn (Ger) v B. Cowan (GB)
H. Gadekron (RSA) v D. Pescarici (Rom)
S. Stevan (NZ) v (B) R. Krajciak (Neth)

- (15) K Kucera (Slovak) v V Votickiv (Slovak)
- W McGillic (US) v M Tebbutt (Aus)
- M Puerta (Arg) v F Squitani (Arg)
- D Sargunich (It) v J Van Herck (Bel)
- A Pavic (Rom) v V Spadec (US)
- J Collier (US) v T Johansson (Swe)
- M Sanner (Ger) v G Janasz (Aus)
- F Claver (Sp) v (2) M Rios (Chi)

Holder Martina Hingis

(1) M Hingia (Swi) v L Raymond (US)
E Makarova (Rus) v S Talaja (Cro)
F Perletti (It) v D Chladkova (Cz)
Y Yoshida (Japan) v E Likhovtseva (Rus)
K Croos (GB) v J Ward (GB)
T Tanasugarn (Thai) v K Hrdlickova (Cz)
C Black (Zim) v S Jayasekera (Can)
H Sukova (Cz) v (13) P Schnyder (Swi)

(15) D Van Roost (Bel) v J Kruger (SA)
N Dechy (Fr) v A Millor (US)
L Latmer (GB) v J Kandarr (Ger)
S Appelmann (Bel) v C Torrens-Valero (Sp)
J Lee (US) v L Woodroffe (GB)
A Sugiyama (Japan) v S Pflochke (Aut)
M Grzybowski (Pol) v R Dragomir (Rom)
C Critica (Rom) v (5) A Sanchez Vicario (Sp)

(2) J Novotná (Cz) v S Kleinová (Cz)
E Gaghari (Sw) v T Panova (Rus)
P Hy-Boulas (Can) v M Babel (Ger)
C Moraru (US) v M Maruska (Aut)
S De Beer (RSA) v I Gorrochategui (Arg)
K Brand (US) v Shi-Ting Wang (Tai)
B Riffner (Ger) v A Cochetoux (Fr)
F Lubura (It) v (10) I Spirlea (Rom)

(12) A Kournikova (Rus) v K Po (US)
A Gays (Ger) v V Riano Porcuat (Sp)
I Gelara (It) v S Williams (US)
A Smachnova (Rus) v M Lucic (Cro)
G Netcon (US) v C Ruben (US)
T Snyder (US) v L Nemoekowa (Cz)
B Schott (Aut) v P Stoyanova (Bul)
J Nejodly (Can) v (7) V Williams (US)

- (8) M Sales (US) v M Sanchez Lorenzo
- A Fusai (Fr) v K Studenikova (Slovak)
- Y Beskid (Indo) v S Reeves (US)
- A Meuresmo (Fr) v M Schnitzer (Ger)
- N Pratt (Aus) v J Cipriati (US)
- L McNell (US) v E Callens (Bel)
- S Noorlander (Neth) v O Lugina (Ukr)
- R Stubbs (Aus) v (14) S Teetud (Fr)

- (11) M Pierce (Fr) v E Tatarikova (Ukr)
- B Schwartz (Aut) v M de Swart (SA)
- A Gensl (Cz) v A Carlsson (Swe)
- E Wagner (Ger) v M Oremans (Neth)
- N Miyagi (Japan) v J Puffin (GB)
- N Zvereva (Bul) v R McQuillan (Aus)
- H Nagyova (Slovak) v A Frazier (Aus)
- G Loon Garcia (Sp) v G S Graf (Ger)

- (8) C Martinez (Sp) v S Farina (It)
- K Boogert (Neth) v M Seidel (Japan)
- M Diaz Oliva (Arg) v P Suarez (Arg)
- A-G Sidor (Fr) v S Smith (GB)
- S Park (Kor) v J Halard-Decugis (Fr)
- O Babanshinov (Belarus) v A D-Bal
- I Marjol (Cro) v K Habsudova (Slovak)
- H Inoue (Jpn) v (16) N Tazdard (Fr)

- (9) A Coeber (SA) v K-A Guro (Aus)
- N Sawamatsu (Japan) v B Paukus (Aus)
- F Li (China) v R Grande (It)
- M Serna (Sp) v R Bobkova (Cz)
- L Ghwara-Rubbi (Fr) v N Kijmota (Japa)
- M Vento (Ven) v S Cacic (US)
- S Pitkowski (Fr) v L Nolland (Lat)
- L Jahn (Am) v GJL (Germany)

*The***Guardian** INTERNATIONAL



Couple of swells . . . Austin (right) and Fred Perry with the Davis Cup Shield they won at Wimbledon in 1936

ALL OF 60 years ago, Bunny Austin was the last British player to reach the men's final at Wimbledon. In 1938, on Friday July 1, he was beaten by Donald Budge of the United States, whose championship prize was £10. As the runner-up, Austin received a £5 voucher "to spend at Mappin & Webb, the London jewellers".

Austin was then 31. He had also been a finalist in 1932, losing to another American, Ellsworth Vines, after first playing at Wimbledon — and reaching the men's doubles semi-final — in 1926 when a Cambridge undergraduate.

Austin will be 92 in August. He remains articulately full of the joys and will be "glued to the box throughout the fortnight" in his comfortable nursing home in Surrey.

He can be found only a couple of booming Sampras serves from the side of

Norhurst Tennis Club, where his sister Phyllis introduced him as a junior member in the golden summer of 1912, when he was six.

In all Austin reached the Wimbledon quarter-finals or beyond on 10 occasions; as well as being the singles runner-up twice, he was a semi-finalist in 1929, when unseeded, and 1936; a men's doubles semi-finalist in 1926 and 1927; and mixed doubles finalist in 1933. In the Davis Cup he played 48 rubbers for

With a delighted player's chuckle his recall is precise as to the exact scores and duration. "Power-play had just arrived. I was a ground-stroker in the 1932 final Ellsworth wiped me off the court in 30 minutes. I was 5ft 8in, he was 6ft 4in. He was seeded two, I was six. Once he'd got his eye in, I was annihilated. It was 6-4, 6-2, 6-0 and he won the match."

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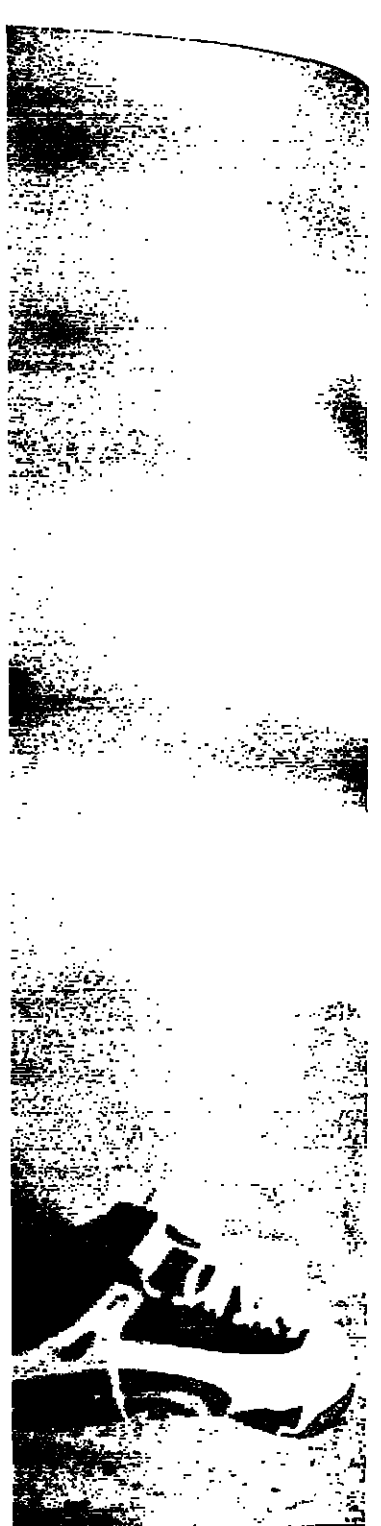
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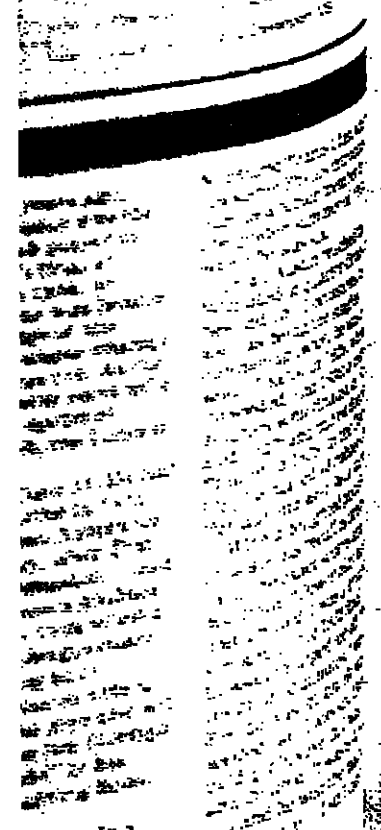
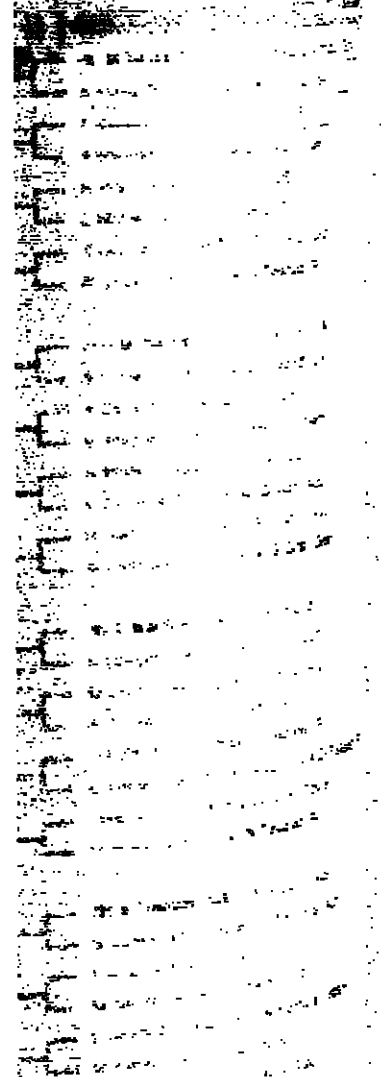
"In the 1938 final I minutely sensed a chance to win before play began. I knew who was defending, and I knew that a decent, clever game was in prospect. He had beaten me often, but I had against him as well. I was an awfully nice fellow, and a delightful sportsman. I wiped me 6-1, 6-0, 6-0. Twenty many years later Don was to me and enkindled a new breakdown of the match and said: 'Stinky it, Stinky it, and realize you did play a well that day, and your score it was really close. I just that I won the final point in most of the games'."

"I cheered my way all, I had won my first set, but the fact remained that Don was almost unbeatable on the points which I

50 من الامم



Howler Martina Hingis



Wimbledon holds its breath as mean Marcelo Rios blows into town. **Stephen Bierley** finds the No. 2 seed in the rudest of health but cursing his old hang-up about grass

POPLE think that because he's the best tennis player in the world that he should be Bill Clinton. But he's like an octopus: there are a lot of layers and it takes a long time getting through those layers. Guess who? Pete Sampras? Andre Agassi? Neither. This is the man some say may surprise everyone and win Wimbledon this year. Others believe a pickled onion would have a better chance of surviving the first week at the All-England Club.

Chile's Marcelo Rios, who for a brief period this year supplanted Sampras as the world No. 1, is not a player who engenders indifference. Sports Illustrated, with no degree of perception or originality, has singled him out as the most disliked player in the men's professional game.

Reports of his rudeness to fellow players, men and women alike, have been rife ever since he joined the senior circuit in 1994. Some are undoubtedly true, others deceptively apocryphal. This much is certain: Mr Rios does not suffer fools in the least bit. Gladly "I speak out and if people cannot handle it, that's too bad."

Larry Stefanki, his American coach, could not be described as impartial yet, as he indicated in the opening quote, he believes the 22-year-old born in Santiago has suffered from what the Americans love to call a brain rap.

"People want Marcelo to be a non-complex individual. He's not like that, but underneath it all he's a good kid. Sometimes you have to prise his feelings out of him, but I don't mind that. Deep down, when you get through all the layers, he has a very, very good side. The trouble is most people don't know him."

The counter argument is that many have tried and few have succeeded.

Worse than his rudeness, real or imaginary, has been Rios' record of throwing matches, something that is becoming far too prevalent within a men's game overburdened by tournaments and struggling with its image.

On and off the court, Rios has appeared to take on a far greater professional responsibility this year, that is until he feebly and inadequately defended at Nottingham last week which was impossible to excuse. He tried his best, though. "Mentally I'm not ready for grass yet."

Some may argue he will never be ready and it is self-evident that hardcourt and clay are the surfaces he thrives on. However, Rios has a relatively short swing and takes the ball early off a low bounce, so there is no reason why he should not succeed at Wimbledon. Like Andre Agassi in his prime, Rios possesses that rare ability to combine quicksilver footwork with lightning anticipation. Six years ago it was said that Agassi, with his essentially baseline game, would not win Wimbledon. He duly did.

And so may Rios. Last year, at his second attempt, he reached the fourth round before losing to Boris Becker, the champion at the time. Like Agassi, Rios is adept at upsetting preconceptions.

He was a brilliant junior, having begun to play tennis at the relatively late age of 10. He comes from a solidly middle-class background, his father an engineer, his mother a former school teacher. Yet he remains surprisingly short on the social graces. Some put it down to shyness, others to insecurity and many to downright rudeness. But few question his ability.

"John McEnroe is the only player I have seen with such talent," said Stefanki. "Like John, he sees the court differently. He tries to find and create angles that people can't believe. The mentality of most players these days is one dimensional — hard, harder and harder."



Brio of Rios... relaxed, left, on a Florida beach, with a mouthful of the Lipton and looking mean in Melbourne

PHOTOGRAPHS BY CLIVE BRUNSON, GARY M. FRODOUSAL

Sampras has won only two tournaments in 1998 and not reached a Grand Slam semi-final since he took the Wimbledon title last year against France's Cédric Pioline.

The 25-year-old American multi-millionaire has frequently stated that to him the Slams are all-important — he has won 10, including four Wimbledon titles — but defeats by Korda at last year's US Open, Karol Kucera in Australia, and Paraguay's Ramon Delgado in the second round in Paris, have brought even this commitment into question.

Agassi, Goran Ivanisevic, Korda, Kafelnikov, Krajicek and Pat Rafter are all possible winners this year, while Tim Henman, a quarter-finalist for two successive years, has let it be known — perhaps a little unwisely — that he is confident of reaching the last four.

As for Greg Rusedski, the beaten US Open finalist this week will hope and pray the last two left of our lot. Old age's blight is that friends keep dying.

"I WON'T be at Wimbledon because I can't walk. I slipped on my slippers and had a bad fall down the stairs a few years ago. But I'm generally in terrific spirits, and well looked after, and I'll be in front of my TV hoping one of our Brits breaks my so-called record."

"I was so sorry to hear of Rusedski's injury; he has got such a sportsman's smile and such oomph as a player. Young Henman is the more beautiful and classic stroke-maker; he can be a joy to watch, although he loses too often when he ought to win. He can't nail the big match

Four worth watching but perhaps not for too long

Goran Ivanisevic
Born 1974, Croatia
Wimbledon record: Won 31, Lost 16
Tournaments won: 1992, 1994, 1997
Known for: His powerful serve and aggressive play.

Tim Henman
Born 1974, England
Wimbledon record: Won 1, Lost 1
Tournaments won: 1997
Known for: His consistent play and strong backhand.

Pat Rafter
Born 1972, Australia
Wimbledon record: Won 1, Lost 1
Tournaments won: 1997
Known for: His powerful serve and aggressive play.

Greg Rusedski
Born 1972, Scotland
Wimbledon record: Won 1, Lost 1
Tournaments won: 1997
Known for: His powerful serve and aggressive play.

Re-stringing the old jokes has become a bit of a racket

FAIR GAME

Julie Welch

NOT ALL tennis players are built like aircraft carriers, with nothing between their ears but a rolled-up ball of catgut. A remarkable number are lively and amusing talkers; they have fascinating hobbies and a fund of rib-tickling anecdotes about their days on the circuit.

Unfortunately these are the ones who never win anything, and it is the hard, boring bastards, with no inner life whatsoever, who turn up at press conferences to grind on about what they have done to improve their second serve.

Really good players, like Marcelo Rios, do not worry about being loved and are quite happy to carry on eating live snakes for breakfast and shaving with broken glass. The not-quite-so-good ones are more sensitive about the "dull" tag and try to increase their crowd appeal either by marrying Brooke Shields or bringing humour to their matches.

Humour technology has advanced rapidly since the days when it was enough for Frew McMillan to choose to wear a white cap, and most coaching manuals now feature a chapter entitled, *How To Engage With The Crowd*. Here, players can find all the most up-to-date tips about comic routines, such as *Grabbing A Policeman's Helmet And Putting It On While Hitting Up, Borrowing A Spectator's Umbrella At The Onset Of A Shower, and*

Crawling Under A Tarpaulin When It Really Starts Pissing Down

The father of all tennis humour was Ilie Nastase, and since players are busy people who cannot be expected to come up with a new set of skits every 20 years or so, all subsequent side-splitters are developments of his original work: the one when a player, seeing his shot bounce back from the net cord, will pretend to lower the net is now a much-loved standard. Another of his famous pants-wetters, Player Uses Ballboy As Stodge, was successfully adapted by Goran Ivanisevic at the Stella Artois last year, when he forced his racket on a ballgirl and made her play a point against Mark Philippoussis.

There are rumours that this year's ballboys and ballgirls have been in special training in case someone tries it again. At a pre-arranged signal, hundreds of them will wrestle the sadistic scumbag to the ground and kick his teeth in.

All these routines are phenomena exclusive to tennis. You do not see a footballer pretending to move the goalposts if he misses, accompanied by peals of appreciative mirth from The Shed. After bungling a glance to fine leg, a cricketer does not suddenly hold his bat like a guitar and strum it while the Barmy Army dig each other in the ribs and chuckle. "What a character!"

Female players do not bother with humour at all, preferring instead to make interesting reductions in their underclothes to win attention. This is why blonde 17-year-olds with no talent but tiny knickers get to play on Centre Court, while women who have a terrific serve and volley game but are built like Hoss Cartwright are banished to a distant court next to the portable toilets.

Despite the international flavour of modern Wimbledon, all its humour is straight out of the States, and a common mistake made by

foreigners is thinking it has to be funny, in fact, anything involving the weather and people wearing a uniform will do.

Before entering the All-England Club, spectators are subjected to a security check in order to flush out any irony or satire they may have hidden about their persons. They will then be shown a picture of a line judge being hit by a ball; if they respond by whooping with glee and exclaiming, "Who says we don't have fun in professional tennis?" they are allowed in.

The actual playing of the game is not essential, whereas rain is. The most prolonged applause on Centre Court is reserved for the men rolling a tarpaulin over it. Then the BBC can get on with the real object of the fortnight which is transmitting fuzzy footage of 25-year-old matches, interspersed with the opportunity to see Sir Cliff Richard leading the crowd in Congratulations again.

Consistent heavy rain gives the commentators the opportunity to pop out to Sainsbury's, pen another chapter of their steamy novels set in the Museum of Tennis, and take in an all-night rave before sliding back into their seats in time to burble "Oh, just look at that! What a lovely moment, Virginia!" at a shot of a policeman with a pigeon sitting on his head.

In a cautious experiment, humour has also been introduced by the Wimbledon seeding committee who put in Greg Rusedski at No. 4, despite the fact that his chance of playing is only marginally greater than that of Fred Perry.

On the other hand, Tim Henman's inclusion at No. 12 was not a joke. The committee have merely missed the point. It is not other seeds Henman needs to avoid but obscure qualifiers, with names like Karl-Heinz Pflinkl or Salvadoro Fustula, to whom he loses regularly in straight sets after knocking out Pete Sampras.

King of the perennial rye and creeping red fescue

CENTRE STAGE

Pete Nichols

SOME folk would not be natural groundsmen: Jeff Tarango, say, or going back a bit, John McEnroe. Natural groundsmen (or women) tend not to hard their racket heads into the turf in the same way born glassmakers tend not to throw stones.

Eddie Seaward would no more think of throwing his racket than he would dream of saying anything undiplomatic. And if someone should thump a racket into the turf, he'll just mix a bit of soil, like Polyfilla, leave it overnight and in the morning you would have a lawn.

Seaward is the man who rules over the most famous turf on the planet. He will not claim it, being modest on behalf of his employers and his domain. "They would probably say the same at Lord's or Edgbaston," he says strategically. But we all know that nobody has heard of Lord's in Buenos Aires, and in Tokyo, if you say Edgbaston, they don't sigh knowingly. But almost everybody almost everywhere has heard of Wimbledon.

Seaward was signed up nine tournaments ago, recruited from the unlikely base of the Aldermaston Recreational Society. There was a year as groundsman designate, learning the ropes under the retiring Geoff Thorn, and no sense at all from Seaward that he would be overwhelmed by the responsibility of a £20-million operation resting on his botanical know-how. He took to it like a greentoe to a leaf.

At Wimbledon, preparation is everything. Though the outside courts can be used by members of the All England Club from May till summer's end (except for two weeks), the Centre Court and Court One are manicured for 50 weeks and except for a practice game for the ballboys and girls last week, used for just two hours, but we kept the courts dry," he says with some pride. "Too little rain can be com-

explains. "It's not nine, or seven, it's exactly eight and we check every morning every day to make sure it's still cutting at the right height." If you want a reference point, the grass at Wimbledon is half the length of the nail on your forefinger.

The grass, which little is left, is a mixture of 70 per cent perennial rye and 30 per cent creeping red fescue, which sounds like what you get when the bread is left in the bin for too long but really is a type of grass. Wimbledon uses the 50 weeks when it isn't in the public eye developing its grasses. Currently, around 100 different strains, each of which has to be tested both for quality and colour, are being sampled. "There would have been a day around 1970, when the head groundsman suddenly realised the implications of colour television.

You couldn't wear studs at Wimbledon though, for they would make little impressions. The soil on the courts has a 22 per cent clay content which binds it fiercely. "If you made a ball of the earth and baked it, you wouldn't expect it to break until you put 100lb of pressure on it," Seaward says.

His real anguish is reserved for the weather. "We can roll and roll and get the courts hard, but we have to make sure they are dry," he says. "Two weeks ago, Wimbledon was swamped with 26 inches of rain in a day. "We were out there wet through for 24 hours, but we kept the courts dry," he says with some pride. "Too little rain can be com-



penetrate for too much is a problem. Seaward passes when you ask him about his worst experience at Wimbledon, but you could wager your best golf shoes that it was last year's championships, when the weight of water poured about successive days without play for the first time since 1909 and the middle Sunday was used for only the second time in history. "It was character building," he says and you know what he really means.

During the tournament, Seaward will be in charge of 23 ground staff, who will care for the courts, and 120 students, who will drag the covers on and off. They will, if the weather forecasts are accurate, be as fit as anyone in SW19 in two weeks' time.

In August, when it is all over and the covers are drawn on another short summer of lawn tennis, the groundsman of Edgbaston, Eastbourne, Nottingham and Queen's will meet and chew the fat at Wimbledon. Like butterflies, their glory is brief.

Cricket

News and Scores. Counties update

0930 16 13 ++			
Derbyshire	24	Kent	30
Durham	25	Lancs	31
Essex	26	Leics	32
Glamorgan	27	Middlesex	33
Gloucs	28	Northants	34
Hampshire	29	Nottingham	35
Somerset	36	Surrey	37
Sussex	38	Warwick	39
Worcesters	40	Yorkshire	41

Complete county scores 0930 16 13 23

Test Match
England v South Africa
Live Commentary 0930 16 13 21
Match Reports 0930 16 13 22

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Golf

Monty suffers hell of hecklers

David Davies in San Francisco finds the Scot out of contention and the atmosphere foul

YET another unsavoury incident, in a week disfigured by them, came during the final round of the US Open here at the Olympic Club yesterday. Colin Montgomerie, who has been heckled continually, was abused by a spectator as he stood waiting to play his tee-shot at the 9th.

A man, cigar clamped between his teeth, yelled out, "Go home, Monty," and the Scot, instantly angry, whirled round to seek out the heckler. "Who said that?" he demanded and, when no one answered, repeated the question. This time the man owned up and Montgomerie asked why he had said it. "It's because of the Ryder Cup," said the man, to which Montgomerie responded: "The only thing wrong with the Ryder Cup was that we won it."

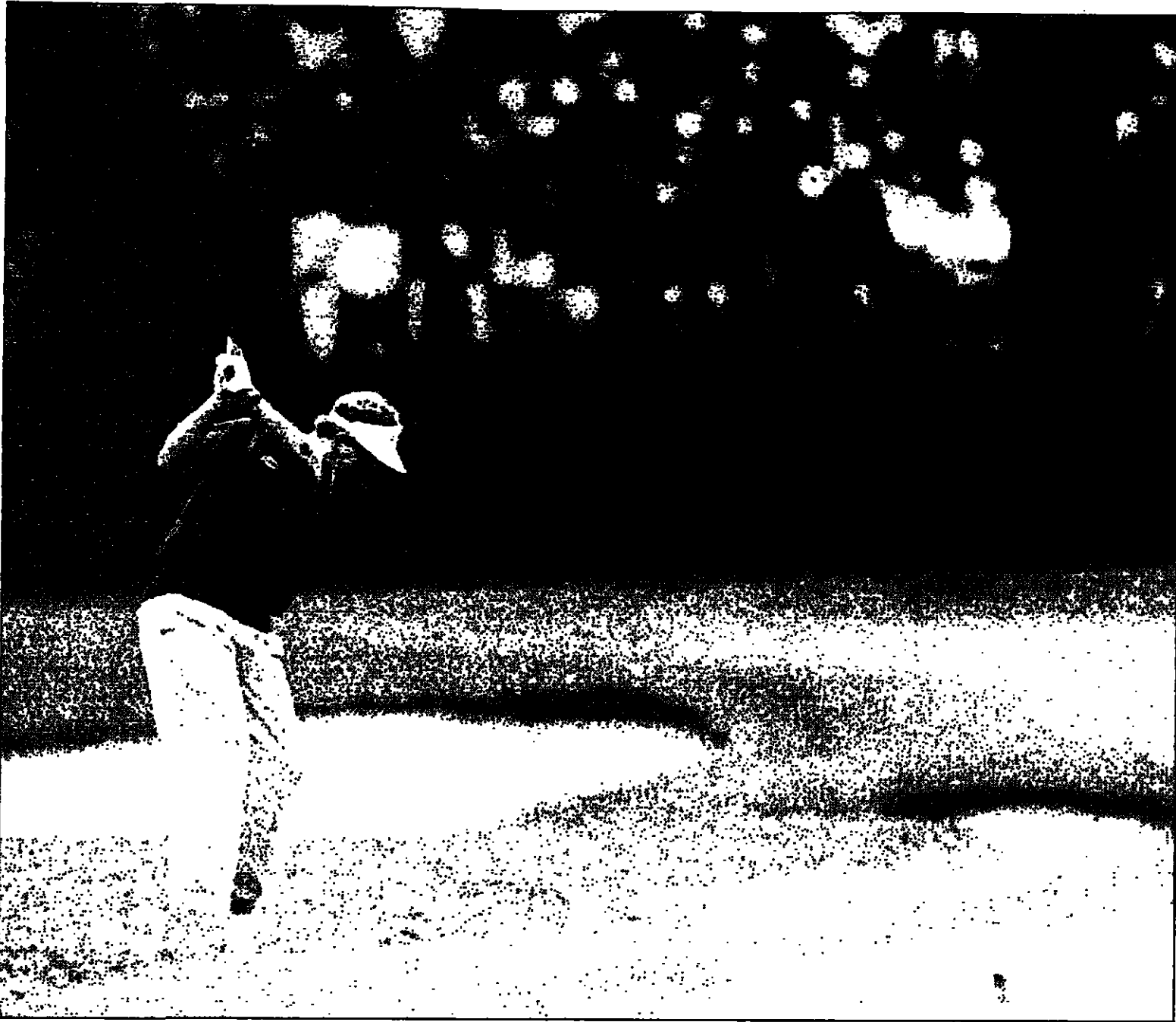
Montgomerie's playing partner was Tom Kite, the United States captain at Valderrama, and he sprang to the Scot's defence. "We have no problems with the Ryder Cup," he said, and there the matter ended. Although Montgomerie was furious, he went on to birdie the hole, the sixth most difficult on the course, and was out in a one-under-par 34.

There had been an earlier incident, unheard of and unseen by Montgomerie, when a man watching play at the 6th urged his ball to "get in the bunker". The police took him away. Asked by them why he had shouted, he said it was because Montgomerie had "badmouthed" American galleries in the past.

The atmosphere surrounding any group in which Montgomerie has been playing this week has been poisonous, even without the catcalls and jeers. The crowds do not like him and have been encouraged to feel this way by ill-informed and irresponsible journalists. It is easy to take a cheap shot at Montgomerie, and hardly a columnist in the United States can resist it.

This week the two biggest papers in the area, the San Francisco Chronicle and San Jose Mercury News, have run articles encouraging people to heckle him. The San Jose article, for example, was headed: "Arrogance makes Montgomerie a target for hecklers."

The game cannot cope with



Living dangerously... Colin Montgomerie hits his second shot at the 6th where a man in the crowd urged him to 'get in the bunker' ANDREW REDDINGTON

hecklers. One shout at the wrong time could cost someone a championship, and quite possibly his career as a result. But despite the fact that boorish behaviour by parts of Montgomerie's gallery had caused the USGA to station, on Saturday, three uniformed police officers among the crowd, the local papers were still belittling the Scot.

Under the headline "The Poul Monty", the Oakland Tribune sneered at him for not giving an interview to the waiting press. "Jolly good idea, probably," it said. And

the Sunday Times of San Francisco said: "Being portly, having rosy cheeks, a Shirley Temple hairdo and a voice that sounds like Mrs Doubt-fire are yet more reasons for the fans to heckle the man who so desperately covets a US Open title."

There was not a critical word about the hecklers who had cheered when he missed a chip at the 6th and then, when he had taken a double-bogey six at that hole, had jeered: "Nice double, Monty."

At the 13th Montgomerie missed a three-footer for par, which was met with a mock

"Ahhhhh", at which the Scot pointed his putter at the offender and said to one of the police escort: "That man should be removed." The policeman replied that he had no power to do so.

Yesterday the police guard was reduced from three to two, presumably on the ground that, as a result of his 77 on Saturday, Montgomerie was playing in the morning, before the fuel that encourages the louts, alcohol, could kick in. He was applauded on the 1st tee, applauded when he hit a fine tee shot and applauded again after a chip to

three feet had given him an opening birdie four.

It took him from 11 over to 10, well out of contention and not even the leading European. That honour went jointly to Lee Westwood and Jose Maria Olazabal, who, despite being six over par, were in the seventh and eighth groups from the end, jointly 18th.

Thomas Bjorn was next best, at seven over, and took on Tiger-watch, Westwood having played with Woods for the first three rounds and emerged one stroke to the good.

Statistics rarely give the whole story but one does stand

out: Payne Stewart, the leader on 307 after three rounds and the only man, at three under, to be under par, had been so consistent throughout this championship that of the 294 double-bogeyers recorded in the three rounds, not one had been on his card.

On a typical USGA course featuring deep, clinging rough and tiny greens, the slightest error can be magnified. On some holes, such as the par-four 468-yard 17th, five is the realistic par and Lee Janzen, for example, was five over for that hole alone, three under for the other 51 holes.

College kid is Tiger's heir apparent

Bill Elliott says Matt Kuchar, the original All-American boy, has a game destined for glory

ALTHOUGH Tiger Woods is No. 1 in the Which Gaffer Do You Most Want To Press The Flesh With? category, some of us who have been involved in the grand old game for a few years now are more than likely to express a preference for Matt Kuchar.

At 19, this teenager is the original all-American lad brought to life. Sometimes I feel that if Ken is ever to have a rival for Barbie's hand then here is that young man. Two and a bit months ago the Georgia

Tech student turboed his way out of amateur anonymity thanks to an Augusta performance that had the money men salivating at his professional prospects.

Not only does he have a game good enough to have taken him on to a Masters, and now a US Open, leader-board, he also possesses the sort of clean-cut, smiling image that sponsors just love. He plays well, he talks well, he smiles well and, golly gee, he even says please and thank-you to the US Open courtesy-car drivers.

Back in April he impressed and charmed a global audience unfamiliar with the concept of sporting achievement combined with a natural grace. Now this week at Olympic he has been at it again. Woods may have his game face on but Kuchar, three years his junior, has stolen the headlines.

Woods, of course, had the last laugh. While Kuchar is heading back to Georgia and a business degree, Woods returns to Florida to flop into a jacuzzi and try very hard to estimate his

fortune to the nearest \$10 million. Kuchar can only dream about such wealth but one day, when he turns professional, it could all be his.

Kuchar has had offers whispered his way but says he is unlikely to turn pro until he has finished his studies. However, Woods said just that not so long ago. He soon changed his mind when Nike offered him a figure not unadjacent to \$40 million.

It has proved a sound investment for the company. In the trading year since he

turned pro, Nike have grossed over \$160 million from Tiger-related goods.

Now Kuchar is no Tiger but he is marketable, the reverse side of someone like, oh, say Colin Montgomerie. He may yet wake up and discover sex, drugs and rock'n'roll but so far there is not much sign of it. Here is a kid who can appeal to the middle classes, and that in turn means money. Tiger has cornered the yoo-f market, Kuchar is perfect for the prappie world.

At Olympic his partners over the first two rounds were the defending champion Ernie Els and last year's Open winner Justin Leonard. On the 1st tee he looked like a little boy lost in the toy department, but 36 holes later he was the man one under par and his

better-known partners were a collective 13 shots behind.

"I haven't been beaten by an amateur in a very long time but good luck to him. He's a really nice kid," said Els.

Behind him Kuchar's white-toothed grin illuminated a cool, grey day. "Just to be here is exciting," he said. "Then to see my name on that leader-board, wow, that's something else. When I first saw it out on the course today I got that twinge in my stomach that only comes to me through playing golf."

Whatever happens now, Kuchar has made his mark and ensured that, when he does decide to shag off the amateur tag, his rewards will be very, very large and instantaneous.

Rowing

Heaven for Bishop, hell for Searle as women fly the flag

Christopher Dodd in Hazevinkel, Belgium

IT WAS Ladies' Day in the second round of the World Cup, when four of the five British medals were earned by the women's team.

Dot Blackie and Cath Bishop maintained their unbeaten record in the pairs and now have a maximum 16 points to take to the final round next month. They were headed by the Aus-

tralians for the first half but turned on the power and won by three seconds.

The eight were the only men's crew to gain a medal, taking silver just over two seconds behind the Romanians, the fastest crew in Europe this season. Absent were the Germans, Americans, Canadians and Austrians, but this is the best result for the British eight for some years.

Miriam Batten and Gillian

Lindsay began their season yesterday with a silver medal in the double sculls. World silver medalists last year, they were beaten by an exceptional Netherlands crew, Eelke van Nessel and Pieta van Diehock.

Tracy Langlands and Jane Hall took bronze. In the lightweight double sculls, a good result in a strong event. The women's eight could not touch the gold-standard Romanians but raced well to finish third after being caught by the Aus-

tralians, Blackie and Bishop winning their second medals of the day. Overall this was a fine result for the women's team nurtured at Marlow by the chief coach Mike Spracklen.

Six British men's crews failed to reach finals, more a measure of the standard in this 36-nation regatta than a lack of talent. Greg Searle finished eighth in the single sculls by beating the American world champion Jamie Koven.

Appleboom blazes to ninth title

SUE APPLEBOOM took her ninth consecutive lightweight sculling title at this year's Henley Women's Regatta, during a weekend which started wet and finished in blazing sunshine, writes Rachel Quayrell.

The judo black belt Debbie Flood won the open singles after learning to scull only a year ago, and will compete for Great Britain at this year's junior world championships. The women of Brown Uni-

versity, who swept the American collegiate trophies, added another two to their collection when they beat the Imperial College/Queen's Tower composite by three lengths in the final of the open eights, and their second crew won both the 60 flat and 50 metres hurdles titles in one weekend at the European Indoor Championships.

"I'm the only one with the experience and ability to win both sprint events in one

Rugby League

Super League: Salford 11 Bradford 10

Lee flapper ends Salford's dismal run

Andy Wilson

FOR the first time in over a month Andy Gregory was able to go back to his pub in Newton-le-Willows last night and really enjoy a pint, after his Salford team ended their five-match losing run by beating the champions.

The victory came courtesy of a 70th-minute drop goal from Mark Lee but was thoroughly well-earned by a committed team performance in complete contrast to Salford's dismal defeat at Halifax only seven days earlier.

They should have led much more comfortably than 10-4 at half-time, having dominated the first 40 minutes when three simple shots at goal were missed by three different kickers. Such prodigality looked likely to cost them at least one point as Robbie Paul, who along with Stuart Spruce represented Bradford's only attacking threat, set up a try for the substitute Paul Medley which, with Steve McNamara's third goal, brought the Bulls level. But in Lee the Reds found an unlikely hero.

The former St Helens hooker unintentionally revealed his veteran status - he is now 34 - by saying of his drop goal: "Eddie Waring would have called it a flapper." Playing out of position at stand-off, he had made the break for his team's opening try for Josh White, and was a contender as Salford's second-best player of the match: their star, by a mile, as he has been in every game this season, was another 34-year-old, David Hulme, who was inspirational at loose forward.

Gregory had again threatened to make sweeping changes after the Halifax

game but was able only to tinker because of injuries to Steve Blakeley and Andy Platt. All the changes paid off, with Lee and White combining well at half-back, Nathan McAvoy returning to form on the wing, and the youngsters Paul Southern and Malcolm Alker adding much-needed comph to the pack. But Gregory put the transformation down to team spirit, and for that he gave the credit to his chairman John Wilkinson, who funded a morale-boosting trip to Blackpool and a slap-up Chinese meal.

For Bradford, this third consecutive defeat was arguably their worst of a bitterly disappointing season. Matthew Elliott, their Australian coach, had hailed a gutsy come defeat by Wigan 10 days ago as "a turning point" but admitted yesterday: "We're back amongst the scrappers for a place in the top five."

In mitigation, his team badly missed their suspended hooker James Lowes and were on the wrong end of some confusing decisions by the referee, including five consecutive penalties leading to Salford's second try, a close-range effort from the impressive second-row David Bradburn.

But Elliott was unhappy at the lack of creativity his team displayed. He was unwilling to single out individuals for criticism but his decision to withdraw Shaun Edwards as a tactical change after 47 minutes spoke more eloquently than any words.

Salford: Bradburn; Rogers, Naylor, Martin, McAvoy; White, Lee; Southern, Alker, Saville, J. Palmer, Bradbury, Hulme, Spruce; Randall, Edwards, Eccles, E. Palmer. Bradford: Spruce; Hoku, Bradley, Valkona, Hodgson; Paul, Edwards; Donoghue, Graham, Raftery, Forshaw, Dwyer. Non-playing: Salford: Croucher, Knox, Fielden, Medley. Referee: K. Kirkpatrick (Warrington).

Wire lose match and holiday

WIGAN returned to the top of the Super League when they hammered Warrington 56-8 at Central Park yesterday. It was the Warriors' biggest win of the season.

Warrington's prop Danny Nuttley was sent off for a professional foul before six minutes just before the interval and collapsed completely in the final quarter, allowing Wigan to score 30 points in 20 minutes.

London Broncos' revival was dealt a crushing blow as Castleford romped to a 38-16 victory at The Stoop after being 10-6 behind at the interval.

history now," said the Australian. "It was an awful performance in the second half. I can accept the fact that we were outclassed but I can't accept that last 20 minutes."

Warrington actually led 8-6 after the first quarter but conceded two tries in six minutes just before the interval and collapsed completely in the final quarter, allowing Wigan to score 30 points in 20 minutes.

London Broncos' revival was dealt a crushing blow as Castleford romped to a 38-16 victory at The Stoop after being 10-6 behind at the interval.

Athletics

'Clueless' critics left flat as Jackson goes for double

Duncan Mackay

COLIN JACKSON is vowing to prove his critics wrong after being controversially picked to run the 100 metres for Britain in the European Cup in St Petersburg this week.

There has been criticism of the selectors' decision to overlook Britain's most promising sprinters, such as the world junior record-holder Dwain Chambers and the European Under-23 champion Julian Golding, in favour of the 31-year-old hurdler as they seek a replacement for the retired Linford Christie.

"People have not got a clue," Jackson said. "The only person in Britain who can beat me over 100 metres at the moment is Ian Mackie, and he's injured."

Jackson will also be running the 110 metres hurdles, the event for which he still holds the world record, as Britain attempt to retain the trophy they won in Munich last year. He successfully achieved a similar double in 1994 when he won both the 60 flat and 50 metres hurdles titles in one weekend at the European Indoor Championships.

"I'm the only one with the experience and ability to win both sprint events in one

weekend," said Jackson, speaking after winning his 13th Welsh senior title on Saturday in Cardiff, suitably in the 100m. Despite a stiff head wind he won comfortably in 10.47sec. "I'm hoping that if conditions are right in St Petersburg I could run 10.1sec," said Jackson, whose fastest so far is 10.29.


In the United States championships in New Orleans, Marion Jones completed a double when she won the 100m in 10.72 and then the long jump with 7.21 metres. Jones is trying to sweep the 100, 200 and long jump, a feat last achieved by Stella Walsh in 1948.


"People's 100m time was the seventh fastest in history and only 0.01 off her career best. Only Florence Griffith-Joyner, the world record-holder with 10.49, has run faster."


"Marion is one of the greatest female athletes ever to walk on this planet," said her coach Trevor Graham. "She's very competitive, eager to learn and is going to be great in all three events in the next couple of years."


The men's 100m final was a massive let-down after Maurice Greene, the world champion, withdrew because of stomach and leg cramp. In his absence Tim Harden won in a wind-assisted 9.88.

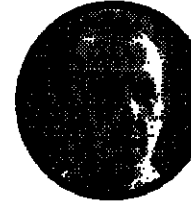
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GARY McALLISTER


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Racing

Frankie Dettori and Almutawakel are pipped at the post in yesterday's big race in France. Chris Hawkins reports

Limpid has Arc firmly in his sights

FRANKIE DETTORI was plying his trade in France yesterday but failed by a neck on Almutawakel to land the Group One Grand Prix de Paris at Longchamp.

The Andalus-trained Limpid, ridden by Olivier Peslier, got the verdict after a furious final furling duel. Croco Rouge, runner-up in the French Derby, finished three lengths away third.

Almutawakel, carrying the Godolphin blue, led 300 yards out but almost immediately was challenged by Limpid, who gave Fabre a seventh win in the race in the last 11 years. Limpid, owned by Sheikh Mohammed, will now be trained for the Arc.

Frodo, trained by Barry Hills, was held up by Pat Eddery in contrast to the forcing tactics which brought him fifth place in the French Derby, but fared no better and again finished fifth.

Dettori had no luck in the Group Two Prix de Malleret for three-year-old fillies and finished third on Luca Cuman's Gorgosia behind another Daner (Cash Asmusen) and Cantilever.

It was not a good day for British challengers as Clive Brittain's Air Express, ridden by Eddery, was fourth of five in the Prix de la Porte Maillot won by Donkey Engine for Alain de Royer-Dupre.

Brittain did no better in Italy where Luso, ridden by Mick Kinane, finished out of the money in the Gran Premio di Milano, won by the German four-year-old Ungaro from John Gosden's Santilana.

Ray Cochrane flew to Vienna to win the Austrian Derby on the German-trained Eyside, while Sheikh Mohammed picked up the Swiss version with his French colt Copeland.

Copeland's victory ended at Ascot on Saturday when the jackpot paid £275,000 and the double on Dark Moondancer and Another Time.

The feature of his victory on the latter was the suicidal pace set by the front-runners Kewarra and Filat Knapper in this mile-and-a-quarter event. Kinane knew they were going too fast and bided his time at the back before coming with a run on the outside to beat Winter Rose by a head.

A relatively quiet week lies ahead on the home front with the Irish Derby at The Cur-



Top of the pops... Fizzed (right) shoots clear under Michael Hills to win the London Clubs Handicap at Ascot on Saturday. PHOTOGRAPH: JULIAN HERBERT

ragh on Sunday the big race on which to focus. The merits of the French and Epsom Derby will be tested here as Dream Well, winner at Chantilly, takes on the Epsom victor High Rise.

Yesterday's defeat of Croco Rouge did nothing to advertise the form of Dream Well, who benefited from an inspirational ride from Cash Asmusen in the French Derby.

Some believe this is because he is not a genuine influence for stamina, although those wanting to rubbish this argument will no doubt point out that his son Kay Tara had no trouble in getting two-and-a-half miles in soft ground in the Ascot Gold Cup last week.

Sadler's Wells colt apparently needs to be covered up for as long as possible and it may not be so easy to carry out such a strategy at The Curragh, which is a more galloping track than Chantilly.

While talking about Sadler's Wells, it is a strange omission in this great stallion's record that he has never sired the winner of the Epsom Derby.

Some believe this is because he is not a genuine influence for stamina, although those wanting to rubbish this argument will no doubt point out that his son Kay Tara had no trouble in getting two-and-a-half miles in soft ground in the Ascot Gold Cup last week.

Hall is in perfect harmony

HARMONY Hall, trained by James Fanshawe, disappointed when only fourth in a Salisbury handicap last month, but is worth another chance, blundered for the first time in today's Showcase race at Nottingham.

He finished a one-paced fourth to Veronica Franco in the Salisbury contest over a mile and a half, having run on strongly over 10 furlongs when second to Carlys Quest in a 24-runner

handicap at Newmarket on his previous attempt this season.

On that form Harmony Hall (3.15) definitely has a race in him and, with the Nottingham course riding at Carlisle recently, it could well be today.

This Colwick Park card looks almost as hard as a Royal Ascot programme and the 20-runner Miles 33 Handicap will take some solving. However, Statutory (4.15) should give backers a decent run from a

high draw near the stands' rails.

He has been running well and finished half of running over a furlong shorter trip when beaten three-quarters of a length by Storyteller at Windsor this evening.

At Windsor this evening, Lady Rockstar (6.40) is going for a six-timer in the Herbert Blagrove Fillies' Handicap. Mick Ryan has placed her brilliantly and her run will soon but this evening's opponents do not look a great bunch.

Windsor evening meeting runners and riders

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
8.40 Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)
8.40 Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)
8.40 Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)
8.40 Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)
8.40 Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)
8.40 Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)
8.40 Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)
8.40 Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)
8.40 Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)
8.40 Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)

6.40 HERBERT AND PETER BLAGROVE FILLIES' HANDICAP 3YO	1m 21.2.50 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

7.10 CORALISIA HANDICAP	5f £3.745 (20 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

Yarmouth tonight		CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM	1.57	1st: 5.00
8.25	Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)			
8.25	Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)			
8.25	Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)			
8.25	Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)			
8.25	Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)			
8.25	Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)			
8.25	Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)			
8.25	Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)			
8.25	Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)			
8.25	Lady Rockstar	Lady Rockstar (jib)			

7.40 JOHN D. WOOD & COMPANY FILLIES' CONDITIONS STAKES	1m 21.2.50 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

8.10 SUNLEY E.B.F. MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES 2YO	1m 21.2.50 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

9.10 ROYAL WINDSOR GRANDSTAND MAIDEN STAKES 3YO	1m 21.2.50 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

7.55 E.B.F. HEMELINGTON CLASSIFIED STAKES	1m 21.2.50 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

8.25 LINGWOOD MAIDEN FILLIES' STAKES 3YO	1m 21.2.50 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

8.55 GARGATE GREEN HANDICAP	1m 21.2.50 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

9.55 SUTTON SELLING STAKES 2YO	5f £1,500 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

8.40 CADDAGAN GROUP HANDICAP 3YO	1m 21.2.50 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

9.10 ROYAL WINDSOR GRANDSTAND MAIDEN STAKES 3YO	1m 21.2.50 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

4.00 HADDINGTON RACING BEATED	1m 21.2.50 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

4.30 ORBISTON HANDICAP	1m 21.2.50 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

5.00 WALLYFORD HANDICAP 3YO	1m 21.2.50 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

3.00 CRAIGSLIST CLAIMING STAKES 2YO	5f £2,000 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

3.30 YVONNE MURRAY M.B.E. HANDICAP	2m £3,455 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

4.45 E.B.F. MAIDEN STAKES 2YO	5f £4,013 (10 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

4.55 E.B.F. MAIDEN STAKES 2YO	5f £4,013 (10 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

5.00 WALLYFORD HANDICAP 3YO	1m 21.2.50 (5 declared)
1.01 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.02 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.03 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.04 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.05 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.06 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.07 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.08 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.09 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1
1.10 Lady Rockstar (jib) 5-1	5-1

Nottingham Jackpot card

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
2.15 Sky Mountain	Sky Mountain
2.15 Sky Mountain	Sky Mountain
2.15 Sky Mountain	Sky Mountain
2.15 Sky Mountain	Sky Mountain
2.15 Sky Mountain	Sky Mountain
2.15 Sky Mountain	Sky Mountain
2.15 Sky Mountain	Sky Mountain
2.15 Sky Mountain	Sky Mountain
2.15 Sky Mountain	Sky Mountain
2.15 Sky Mountain	Sky Mountain

2.15 SERVO COMPUTER SERVICES SELLING HANDICAP	1m 22.495 (18 declared)
1.01 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.02 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.03 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.04 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.05 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.06 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.07 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.08 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.09 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.10 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1

2.45 NOTTINGHAM EVENING POST MAIDEN STAKES	1m 24.468 (11 declared)
1.01 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.02 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.03 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.04 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.05 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.06 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.07 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.08 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.09 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.10 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1

3.15 49'S SUN CHEMICAL HANDICAP (SHOWCASE RACE)	1m 21.2.50 (14 declared)
1.01 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1
1.02 Sky Mountain 5-1	5-1

France 98

Batty and England must tread carefully

David Lacey on the worldly Romanian test facing Glenn Hoddle's side in Toulouse tonight

TONIGHT England sit their World Cup A levels. Passing with distinction will be less important than the fact of passing at all, but the level of the performance against Romania in the Municipal Stadium here will give the clearest indication yet of what sort of tournament Glenn Hoddle's team are likely to have.

"Let's face it," said Hoddle, "the Romanians are the seeded side in our group. They've qualified more easily than any other European country. They're a quality side, they've got quality players and they have more World Cup experience than we do. Probably you've got to make them favourites."

For England the encounter with a more worldly-wise Romania team was always going to be the pivotal point of the opening round. Now, having opened with an efficient 2-0 win against Tunisia in Marseille a week ago, they have an opportunity to establish a firm grip on the leadership of Group G.

None of this will concern Hoddle for the moment. The England coach will be looking no further ahead than the problems posed by the nicely balanced mixture of youth and experience which has already seen Romania ease their way past Colombia with a 1-0 win in Lyon.

Hoddle will not want to have to beat the Colombians in Lens on Friday to go through. If England cannot force a win here they must make sure they do not lose.

The principal threat tonight will come from the new partnership forged between the 34-year-old George Hagi, playing in his third World Cup, and Adrian Ilie, 10 years younger and playing in his first. Ilie's was the well-taken goal that beat Colombia and because of the

need to stop this pair infiltrating his midfield and defence Hoddle's attitude to tonight's match will not be noticeably different to the way he approached Tunisia.

In fact the team with which England start the game may well be unchanged unless Gareth Southgate's injured foot brings in Gary Neville at the back. The debate about whether David Beckham should be playing on the right instead of Darren Anderton rumbles on but overlooks the fact that with three substitutes available modern matches are, in effect, 14-a-side.

So Beckham may find himself a part of the proceedings in the Municipal Stadium even if he again does not start the match. But if he does come off the bench it will probably mean that England are behind and having to chase the game. Hoddle's initial tactics will be designed to prevent this happening.

What the England coach will be looking for yet again is a repeat of the exercise in Georgia in the qualifiers 18 months ago, when a carefully controlled performance brought a 2-0 victory which Teddy Sheringham later described as one of the most professional operations in which he had been involved.

In that match David Batty's restrained but effective supervision of Georgi Kinkladze deprived the Georgians of their distributor head. Tonight Batty will surely be called upon to perform a similar operation on Hagi.

He will take up the task, moreover, knowing that one mistimed challenge, one thoughtless tackle from behind or the side, could produce a red card from the French referee Marc Batta, who when Portugal played Germany in the qualifiers sent off one of their substitutes before he had taken the field.

Batty has already made an impact on this World Cup: his was the boot which caught Ben Younes above the right eye when the Tunisian ducked his head towards a ball which the England player was about to hook clear.

Although the Japanese referee Masayoshi Okada

awarded a free-kick against Batty he realised that the incident was accidental and no card followed. But that was before Sepp Blatter, the new president of Fifa, ordered officials to be more strict. Now players will have to look before they kick.

Of course the same will apply to Romania, who already have three players — Ilieanu Filipescu, Dan Petrescu and Dorinel Munteanu — on yellow cards compared with England's one, Sol Campbell. A lot will depend on how well the respective defences time their challenges within 30 yards of goal.

So far both Campbell and Tony Adams have managed to stay on their feet and dispose opponents without arousing the wrath of the referee. But that was against Tunisians. He will be a different proposition.

Much, from England's point of view, will depend on Paul Ince and Batty gaining an early grip of the midfield which will allow Paul Scholes to go forward and not only support Sheringham and Alan Shearer but get ahead of them into the sort of scoring positions he achieved against Tunisia.

Shearer can expect the sort of close marking from Romania that he experienced in Marseille but will trust, post-Blatter, that he receives more protection than he was given in the face of consistent fouling by Sami Trabelsi, the Tunisia captain.

England's captain remains their most likely match-winner, with Michael Owen remaining on standby to replace Sheringham should Hoddle feel the attack requires something completely different. The consistent width that Graeme Le Saux gives England on the left will be valuable in stretching the Romania defence, and Le Saux's free-kicks, from left or right, have already been effective.

A win tonight and England will be entitled to feel that in this World Cup they have finally arrived. But their last four matches against Romania have been drawn, and the one before that, a World Cup qualifier under Ron Greenwood, was lost to a hometown penalty in Bucharest.

In fact England have not beaten the Romanians since Geoff Hurst scored the only goal of their opening match in the 1970 World Cup. Shearer and Scholes could restore the balance now.

ROMANIA (probable): 1-4-1-2: Seaman: Southgate (or Neville), Adams, Campbell, Anderton, Ince, Batty, Le Saux. Scholes: Shearer, Sheringham.

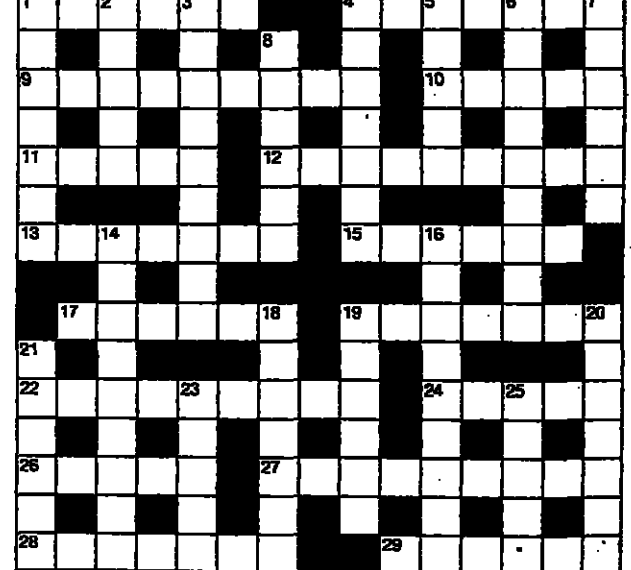
ROMANIA (probable): 4-3-1-2: Stoica: Petrescu, Ghibutaru, Gheorghe Popescu, Selvarin (or Filipescu), Munteanu, Olca, Gabori Popescu, Hagi; Moldovan, Ilie. Referee: M Batta (France).

Thirsty work... David Beckham takes a break in training for today's game in Toulouse. The Manchester United midfielder is expected to be on the bench. PHOTOGRAPH: RUSSELL BOYCE

Thirsty work... David Beckham takes a break in training for today's game in Toulouse. The Manchester United midfielder is expected to be on the bench. PHOTOGRAPH: RUSSELL BOYCE

Guardian Crossword No 21,307

Set by Hendra

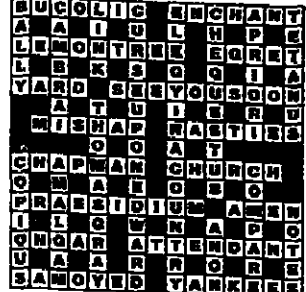


Across

- 1 A mother put on cooking-vessel for a hal (6)
- 4 Nail hardener a tinker employed (7)
- 9 Words of encouragement when raising the issue? (3-1-5)
- 10 Fitted with propellers, flew high leaving society behind (5)
- 11 Bit of land lies off head of Thurso (5)
- 12 Irregularities in a semolina mixture (6)
- 13 Good boy with appreciation of seductive glance (4,3)
- 16 Mendelssohn work that makes a profit, we hear (5)
- 17 Rises for Conservative members? (6)
- 19 Civil Service accepting bid for cash-boxes (7)
- 22 The edge of Wimbledon (5)
- 24 Topping stuff for cold symptoms (5)
- 26 Amerind go to sea in a storm? (5)
- 27 Reading between the lines (4,5)
- 28 One cuts designs from short waste pieces (7)
- 29 Grant from Bassett/White (5)

WINNERS OF PRIZE PUZZLE 21,307
This week's winners of a Collins English Dictionary are: Sheila Anderson of Durham, Ian Jones of Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, Michael Sharp of Harington, Cambridgeshire, T. A. Unsworth of Newton-le-Willows, North Yorkshire, and D. Quirk of Halifax, Yorkshire.

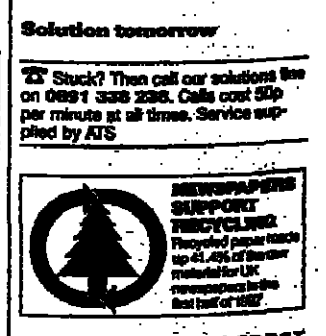
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Down

- 1 Pulling long face, president takes a trip (7)
- 2 Sodium salt almost through the nose (5)
- 3 No place, currently, for horse-trading (6)
- 4 A major perforation? Not in this surgery! (7)
- 5 Girl hard possibly, but accepting ring (5)
- 6 Complete expression in tea making (6)
- 7 Knotty ones do twist (6)
- 8 Angry outburst of one in traffic (6)
- 14 Blunt lesson for the audience? (6)
- 16 Trespasses, wearing skirts (5)
- 18 Specific weapon that killed Robin? (7)
- 19 Magic Circle clergyman (6)
- 20 Section of FBI agents in position (7)
- 21 Offer cricket side a bribe? (6)
- 23 What is required in Eden's layout? (5)
- 25 Train that is carrying it's own union members (5)

Solution tomorrow
23 Stuck? Then call our solutions line on 0800 333 233. Calls cost 50p per minute at all times. Service supplied by AUS.



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over a week away.
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